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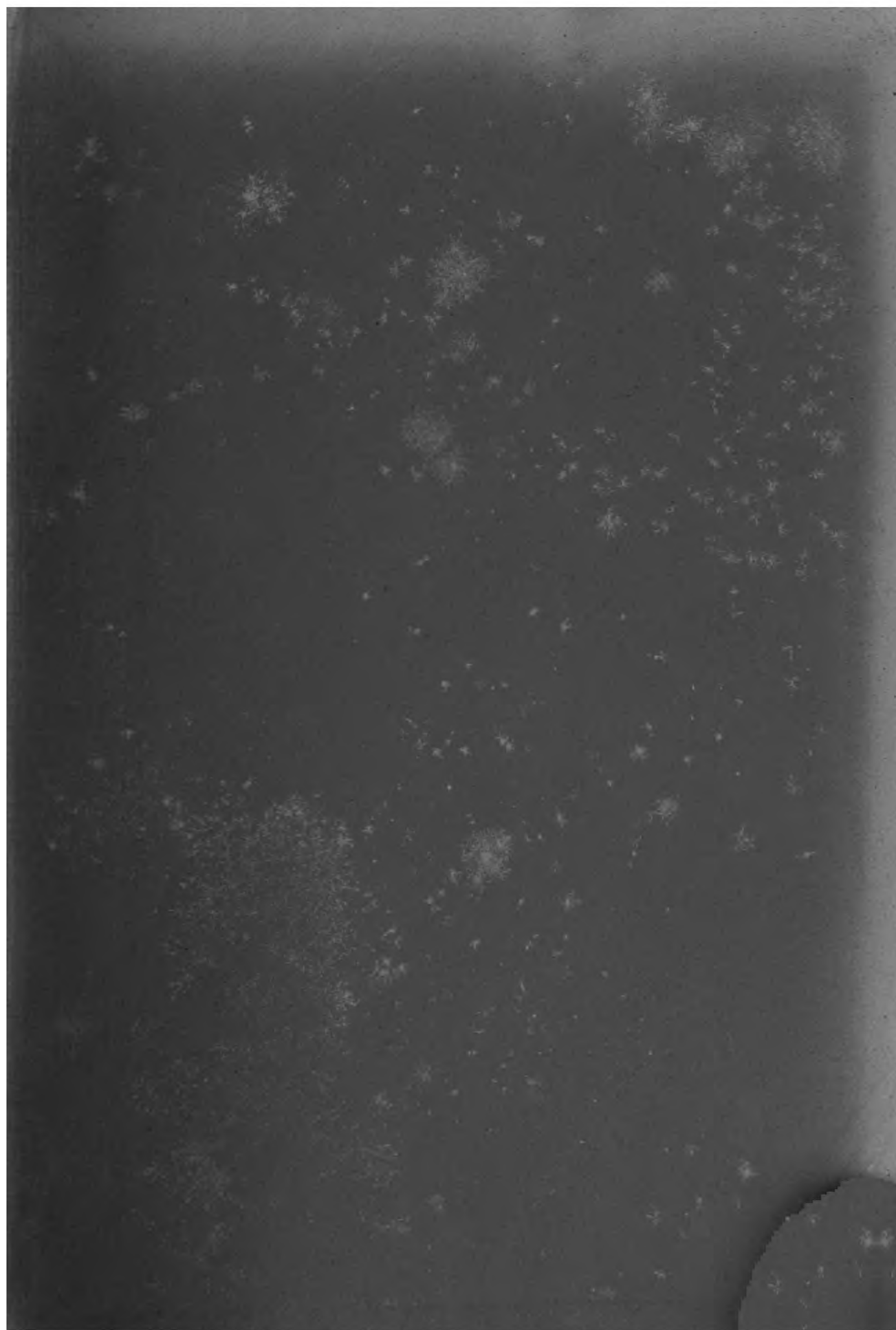


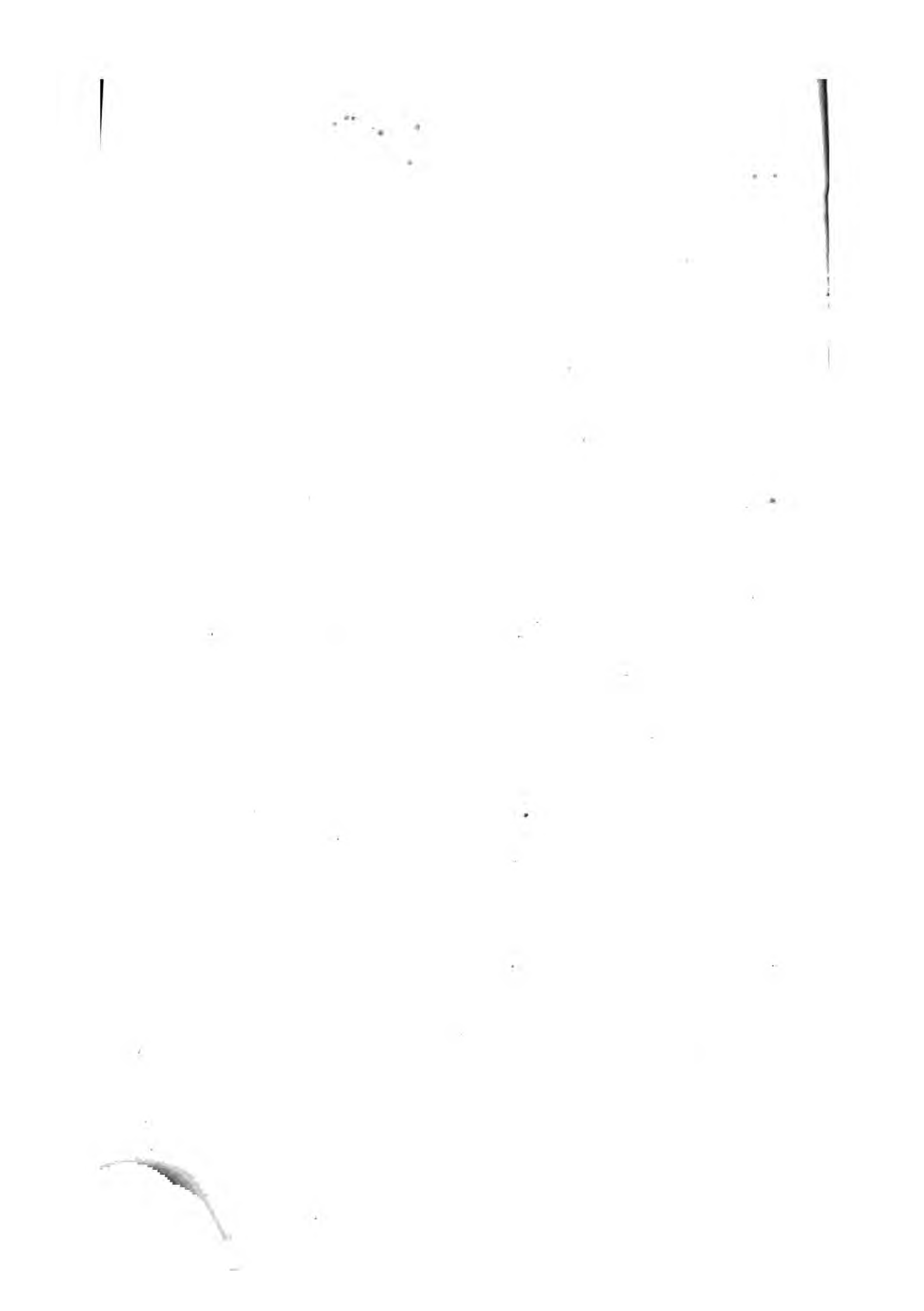
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OLD WORDS
AND
MODERN MEANINGS.

OLD WORDS
AND
MODERN MEANINGS

BEING A COLLECTION OF
EXAMPLES FROM ANCIENT AND MODERN ENGLISH AUTHORS
ILLUSTRATING SOME
CHANGES IN THE USE OF LANGUAGE

EDITED BY
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Who could hope his lines should long
Last in a daily change of tongue?
While they are new, envy prevails,
And as that dies, our language fails.
WALLER.

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PREFACE.

THE following collection of passages from old and modern writers, though the result of considerable labour and research, was originally undertaken rather as an amusement than with a view to publication. As however the work approached completion, it was thought that it possessed qualities of a sufficiently popular character to entitle it to the notice of the general reader. It is intended to exhibit some of the changes which the course of time has effected in the meaning of numerous words in common use, and to set forth such varieties by way of examples which speak for themselves, rather than by the use of lengthy and tedious explanations. The author has not attempted to point out the derivation of the words themselves, or to trace the stages of transformation through which they may have passed, but the object has been simply to bring together instances, arranged in the order of time, showing a whole or partial deviation from the original sense.

Many words may doubtless have had from a remote period a second meaning which has survived the alternative signification, and the obsolete sense may have been of rare occurrence, but that has not been considered a sufficient reason for their exclusion.

It is believed that the present book differs from any

other of the same character in supplying illustrations of the modern usage by way of contrast to the old, thus enabling the reader himself to compare the various meanings and to detect the subtle changes.

In the present general taste for things belonging to a more or less remote past, the antiquated expressions of our early writers seem to deserve a share of attention, and if the form and spelling of words so keenly occupy the public mind, the study of their meaning, whether ancient or modern, can hardly be of inferior importance.

The works of Nares, Richardson, and other writers have been consulted with reference to certain obscure senses, but the quotations, with some few exceptions, have been derived from the original sources.

It is much to be regretted that the lady who collected most of these examples did not live to complete the MS. for the Press, and the Editor begs the indulgence of the reader in excusing the absence of exact reference to some of the authors quoted, together with other imperfections necessarily arising from the publication of a posthumous work.

INTRODUCTION.

‘I MAINTAIN the change of words,’ wrote Shakspeare, and he in turn might now justly be startled at the vicissitudes of many of his own expressions. The language of a country, no less than its laws and institutions, is subject to the variations of time and fashion. If ideas and opinions, beliefs and superstitions, are constantly being pruned and modified by increased knowledge, culture, and the general force of civilisation, it is not to be wondered at that the words which express those ideas and beliefs should undergo a corresponding transformation.

Words, whilom flourishing,
Pass now no more, but banished from the court
Dwell with disgrace among the vulgar sort :
And those which eld’s strict doom did disallow,
And damn for bullion, go for current now*.

In the infancy of the literary history of a nation, its language may be said to be ‘in the air.’ The materials out of which it is formed are themselves heterogeneous, as the different races which compose the population may have happened to contribute their share to the common

* Sylvester. The old meaning of ‘bullion’ was inferior metal, which required melting in order to be raised to the proper standard of purity.

tongue. In the course of its growth new words of foreign origin are constantly engrafted on the old stock, either by translation or by the adoption of terms and phrases from external sources. Hence in the conflict of words, as time proceeds, many must perish altogether, and many can only survive in a sense more or less at variance with their earlier usage. With the progress of literature, assisted by the all-important art of printing and the growth of education, greater certainty, precision, and uniformity are arrived at, until at last authoritative dictionaries establish a recognised standard of form and meaning.

It must not, however, be supposed that language can ever be artificially reduced to a hard and fast condition of fixity. Its nature is far too pliant and elastic to reach any point approaching finality, nor can it resist the innovations created by social and political changes, by inventions and discoveries, and by increased communication with foreign nations involving the adoption or imitation of many unaccustomed idioms. As in music, so in language, new combinations are continually formed, and since the associations or connections with which a word is used often determine its exact sense, it is evident that new shades of meaning must constantly be introduced. Again, while the caprice of fashion, and the passing away of present things, are likely to be ever powerful in destroying terms which may seem to be most secure from neglect, the spirit of archaism, on the other hand, though checked by considerations of affectation, is constantly working to revive the obsolete forms and expressions of the past.

But changes occur much more frequently and cer-

tainly when a language is as it were in a state of fusion, and when words can be fashioned and impressed by the hand of an arbitrary author, fearless alike of the critic and the dictionary. In days when spelling was almost a matter of hazard or of individual taste, when grammar schools were only beginning to be founded, when reading and writing were but rare accomplishments, the liberty of an author in the use of words was equalled only by the modern liberty of the press in the publication of opinions.

It was not till the middle of the fourteenth century that the English tongue, rising from provincial dialects and fashioned into a permanent standard, superseded French and Latin as the language of the court and society. But many words that belonged to this early period of Chaucer and Gower were out of date before the time of Shakspeare, who often uses such expressions in jocular and burlesque passages as belonging to a past age and fashion. In Milton numerous meanings are found which would not be intelligible in their modern sense. 'Cannot I admire,' says Dryden, 'the height of Milton's invention and the strength of his expression without defending his antiquated words?' And yet it will be seen that many words lingered on with Dryden that have since become obsolete, and even in much later writers examples occur of meanings no longer in use.

An interesting exception to the general rule of change may be noticed in the case of certain legal terms, which have retained an original sense that in ordinary use has altogether disappeared. This is no doubt to be accounted for by the precision of legal

writers, their reverence for authority and their generally conservative tendencies. No social or political disturbance has been sufficient to check the descent of many time-honoured expressions familiar to lawyers, but which appear to the ordinary reader most unusual, if not unintelligible. The law is a craft or mystery, and as such must have its secret and technical terms; but still it is remarkable that those terms should have retained an archaic sense in courts and books of law, when they have been completely transformed in their common use.

It will be found in the following pages that not only individual words, but even groups possessing a cognate sense, have suffered a change of meaning. Thus 'by-and-by,' 'presently,' 'anon,' which formerly conveyed the idea of the immediate present, now imply a future varying in remoteness. So 'crafty,' 'cunning,' 'knowing,' 'pert,' and many kindred words once possessed a favourable sense, but have passed from good to bad, as others have been turned in a contrary course.

One of the most curious specimens of variation in meaning occurs in the word 'quaint,' examples of which will be found in the text. Its origin must be traced to the old French *coint*, from the Latin *comptus*, which signified pretty, pleasing, elegant, handsome, comely, fantastic, ingenious, artistic, subtle, refined, exact, prudent, wise, clever, accomplished. In Chaucer it is applied to the magic spear of Achilles which could both wound and heal, to a handsome dress and an elegant ring; in Gower, to the insinuating speech of a Cardinal; in Lydgate, to the subtle approach of fear. Shakspeare uses the epithet in describing Ariel, Romeo's

'ladder of cords,' Katherine the Shrew's well-fashioned gown, and he applies it to elegance of speech, writing and fashion. Spenser tells of 'quaint Bellona,' and produces the word in a new sense of 'fastidious' in company with 'disdainful.' In Howell (1625) we find an approach to the modern meaning of 'curious' in the 'quaint difference the ancients did put betwixt a letter and an oration, that one should be attired like a woman, the other like a man.' Milton returns to the older sense in describing the 'quaint enamell'd eyes' of flowers; Wood writes of a 'quaint preacher'; Prior of the 'quaint arguments of logic'; and Akenside of the 'quaint-eyed visage of ridicule.' The history of the word is thus brought down to modern times, in which its meaning is altogether changed to that of grotesque and old-fashioned. It may perhaps be owing to the realistic and utilitarian tendencies of the present day that many works of art of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, which abounding in exuberant fancy would then have been described as beautiful, are now thought worthy only of the almost contemptuous epithet of 'quaint'—that is, possessing merely the artistic qualities of a bygone and antiquated style.

Then we find that men and women alike were once described as 'shrews,' 'termagants,' and 'witches'; Vandyck is an 'artisan'; Archimedes, Catiline, and Galileo are 'artists'; Calliope is 'sly'; Ovid is a 'clerk'; a sword is a 'bodkin'; an unsafe harbour is 'brittle'; St. Dunstan's pincers are 'trinkets'; Troy is 'amiable'; drinkables are 'viands'; a fountain is a 'well'; a knight is a 'child' or 'infant'; a youth is a 'damsel'; manners are 'airs'; tumblers are 'antics.'

'Nephews' meant grand-children; an 'imp,' a prince; 'pittance,' a decent allowance; 'to deprave,' to vilify or slander; 'bickering,' open fighting; 'restive,' stubborn; 'unvalued,' invaluable; 'inhabitable,' uninhabitable; 'niggard' and 'miser,' miserable; 'miserable,' miserly; 'usury,' lawful interest; 'interest,' usury; 'demerits,' merits; 'uncouth,' unknown; 'amorous,' worthy of love; 'fastidious,' disgusting.

These examples may be sufficient to illustrate the interest as well as the importance of the study of words in their past and present use, whether it be undertaken for the purpose of fully understanding our early writers, or with the view of more surely appreciating the true value and bearing of modern expressions, which can only be ascertained by a knowledge of their former history.

LIST OF AUTHORS QUOTED IN THE TEXT.

Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries.

Chaucer	1340-1400
Dunbar	1465-1530
Gower	1320-1402
Langland, W., <i>Piers Plowman</i> ..	1332-1378
Lydgate	1375-1460
Mandeville, Sir J.	1300-1372
Walsingham, <i>Historian</i>	cir. 1440
Wiclif's <i>Translation of the Bible</i> ..	1380

Sixteenth Century.

Bacon	1561-1629
Chapman	1557-1634
Daniel	1562-1619
Drayton	1563-1631
Elyot, Sir T.	1495-1546
Fox, J.	1517-1587
Fryth	1533
Gosson, S.	1554-1623
Greene, R.	1560-1592
Hall, E.	1499-1547
Holinshed	1580
Holland	1551-1636
Hooker	1553-1600
Jewell, Bishop	1522-1571
Knollis	1596
Lambard	1536-1601
Latimer	1472-1555
Lyly	1553-1599

Marlowe	..	..	..	..	1563-1593
More, Sir T.	..	..	..	..	1480-1535
Raleigh, Sir W.	..	..	..	..	1552-1618
Shakspeare	..	..	..	..	1564-1616
Sidney, Sir P.	..	..	..	..	1554-1586
Skelton	..	..	..	..	1460-1529
Spenser	..	..	..	..	1553-1599
Stow	..	..	..	..	1525-1605
Surrey	..	..	..	..	1516-1547
Tusser	..	..	..	..	1515-1580
Tyndale	..	..	..	..	1477-1536
Whitgift	..	..	..	..	1530-1604

Seventeenth Century.

Baillie, R.	..	..	..	..	1599-1662
Barrow	..	..	..	..	1630-1677
Beaumont	..	..	..	..	1586-1616
Boyle, R.	..	..	..	..	1626-1691
Brown, T.	..	..	..	..	1604-1673
Butler, S.	..	..	..	..	1600-1680
Cheyne	..	..	..	..	1671-1743
Chillingworth	..	..	..	..	1602-1644
Corbet	..	..	..	..	1589-1635
Cowley	..	..	..	..	1618-1667
Cudworth	..	..	..	..	1617-1688
Davenant, Sir W.	..	..	..	..	1605-1668
Donne	..	..	..	..	1573-1631
Dryden	..	..	..	..	1631-1701
Evelyn, J.	..	..	..	..	1654-1698
Fairfax	..	..	..	..	1632
Fletcher	..	..	..	..	1576-1625
Ford	..	..	..	..	1586-1639
Fuller	..	..	..	..	1608-1661

Glanvil ..	..	..	..	..	1584-1640
Hale, Sir M.	..	..	..	..	1609-1676
Hall, Bishop	..	..	..	..	1574-1656
Hammond	..	..	..	..	1605-1650
Hobbes ..	..	..	..	..	1588-1679
Horsley ..	..	..	..	..	1685-1732
Howell ..	..	..	..	..	1594-1666
Jonson, Ben	..	..	..	..	1574-1637
Lee, Nathaniel	..	..	..	..	1655-1692
L'Estrange	..	..	..	..	1616-1704
Locke ..	..	..	..	..	1632-1704
Lovelace ..	..	..	..	..	1618-1658
Massinger	..	..	..	..	1584-1640
Middleton, T., <i>Dramatist</i>	..	..	..	..	1626
Milton ..	..	..	..	..	1608-1674
North, R.	..	..	..	..	1650-1733
Ogilby ..	..	..	..	..	1600-1676
Orrery, Lord	..	..	..	..	1621-1679
Peacham ..	..	..	..	..	1640
Pepys, S...	..	..	..	..	1632-1703
Philips, Ambrose	..	..	..	..	1671-1749
Prior ..	..	..	..	..	1640
Quarles ..	..	..	..	..	1592-1644
Randolph	..	..	..	..	1605-1634
Ray ..	..	..	..	..	1628-1705
Roscommon	..	..	..	..	1633-1684
Sandys ..	..	..	..	..	1577-1644
Shirley, J.	..	..	..	..	1594-1666
Smart ..	..	..	..	..	17th cent.
Strype ..	..	..	..	..	1643-1737
Taylor, Jeremy ..	..	..	..	..	1613-1667
Temple, Sir William	..	..	..	..	1628-1698
Waller ..	..	..	..	..	1605-1687

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Walton, I.	..	..	..	..	1593-1683
Webster, J.	..	..	..	..	17th cent.
Weever ..	..	..	..	..	1576-1632
Woodward	..	..	..	..	1665-1728

Eighteenth Century.

Addison	..	..	..	..	1672-1719
Akenside	..	..	..	..	1721-1770
Blackstone	..	..	..	..	1723-1780
Blair, R.	..	..	..	..	1699-1747
Boswell ..	..	..	..	..	1740-1799
Budgell, E.	..	..	..	..	1685-1736
Burke ..	..	..	..	..	1729-1797
Defoe ..	..	..	..	..	1663-1731
Felton ..	..	..	..	..	1679-1740
Fielding ..	..	..	..	..	1707-1754
Gibbon ..	..	..	..	..	1737-1794
Goldsmith	..	..	..	..	1728-1774
Hill, Aaron	..	..	..	..	1685-1750
Hume ..	..	..	..	..	1711-1776
Johnson, Samuel	..	..	..	..	1709-1784
Mason, W.	..	..	..	..	1725-1797
Parnell ..	..	..	..	..	1679-1717
Pope ..	..	..	..	..	1688-1744
Ramsay ..	..	..	..	..	1685-1758
Richardson, S.	..	..	..	..	1689-1761
Sheridan	..	..	..	..	1721-1788
Smith, Adam	..	..	..	..	1723-1790
Smollett	..	..	..	..	1721-1771
Steele ..	..	..	..	..	1671-1729
Sterne, L.	..	..	..	..	1713-1769
Swift, Jonathan ..	..	..	..	..	1667-1745
Walpole, Horace	..	..	..	..	1717-1797

OLD WORDS

AND

MODERN MEANINGS.

A.

Abate. Formerly, to beat or cast down (*abattre*); to subdue: now, to diminish.

The kynge of Scottes planted his siege before the castell of Norham, and sore *abated* the walls.—HALL, *Henry VIII.*

Till at length

Your ignorance deliver you, as most
Abated captives to some nation,
That won you without blows.

SHAKESPEARE, *Coriolanus*, iii. 3.

In politics as in religion there are devotees who shew their reverence for a departed Saint by converting his tomb into a sanctuary for crime. Because he was merciful, his bones give security for assassins, vile abuses cluster round every glorious event, round every venerable name, and this evil assuredly calls for vigorous measures of literary police, but the proper course is to *abate* the nuisance, without defacing the shrine.—MACAULAY.

Accept. To receive favourably: now employed in respect of things rather than persons.

His grace admitted me to audience, and *accepted* me lovingly.—*Cardinal Wolsey to R. Pace.*

God is no *accepter* of persons; neither riches, nor poverty are a means to procure his favour.—CHILLINGWORTH, *Serm.* iii.

The whole nation at that time was on fire with faction. The Whigs applauded every line in which liberty was mentioned as a satire on the Tories, and the Tories echoed every clap to show that the satire was unfelt. The story of Bolingbroke is well known. He called Booth into his box and gave him fifty guineas for defending the cause of liberty so well against a perpetual dictator. The play ['Cato'] was acted night after night for a long time. When it was printed, notice was given that the Queen would be pleased if it was dedicated to her, but as Addison had designed that compliment elsewhere, he was unable to *accept* the favour.—Dr. JOHNSON.

Acquit. Once, to requite, to return : now, to free from blame or suspicion.

Now thank the worm and eke the beast,
Although they made no behest,
His travail hadden well *acquit*.—GOWER.

Syr, desirous to *acquit* your tried friendship with some token of good will, of late I perused divers of my imperfect works, minded to bestow on you the travel of my fore-passed time.—G. WHITSTONE (1578).

The vices of the Administration must be chiefly ascribed to the weakness of the King, and to the levity and violence of the favourite [Shaftesbury], but it is impossible to *acquit* the Lord Keeper.—MACAULAY.

Actual. Used by Jeremy Taylor as ripe or fit for action.

Use therefore that faculty which nature hath given thee and thy education hath made *actual*, and thy calling hath made a duty.—J. TAYLOR.

These memoirs [M. Dumont] have not convinced us that the French Revolution was not a great blessing to mankind. But they have convinced us that very great indulgence is due to those who while this Revolution was *actually* taking place regarded it with unmixed aversion and horror. We can perceive that the evil was temporary and the good durable.—MACAULAY.

Addict. Formerly meant to devote the mind or body to good as well as evil purposes, but now used only in the unfavourable sense.

Ye know the house of Stephanas, that they have *addicted* themselves to the ministry of the Saints.—*Authorised Version*, 1 Cor. xvi. 15.

Lycurgus was so *addicted* to elegant learning, as to have been the first that brought out of Ionia the scattered works of Homer.—MILTON.

The Quakers always seem to succeed in every institution which they undertake. In the plan and conduct of this retreat [for the insane] they have evinced the same wisdom and perseverance. The present account is given by Mr. Tuke. The long description at the beginning is made tedious for the Quaker market, and Mr. Tuke is too much *addicted* to quoting; but with these trifling exceptions it is full of good sense and humanity, right feeling and rational views.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Address. Once, to prepare or make ready.

Our navy is *addressed*, our power collected,
Our substitutes in absence well invested,
And everything lies level to our wish.

SHAKESPEARE, 2 *Henry IV*, iv. 4.

They ended parle, and both *addressed* for fight.

MILTON, *Paradise Lost*, Bk. vi.

The public, no longer compelled by war and the mighty career of Napoleon to turn their attention to the action of life could give their sympathies undivided to the first who should represent their thoughts. Sir Philip Sidney represented the popular sentiment in Elizabeth's day, Byron that in our own. Each became the poetry of a particular age put into action, each incorporated with the feeling he *addressed* attracted towards himself an enthusiasm which his genius alone did not deserve.—LYTTON.

Admirable. }
Admiration. } Formerly expressive of wonder with
Admire. } or without approval.

It may justly seem *admirable* how that senseless religion

[Mahometanism] ever gained so much ground on Christianity.—
FULLER.

Admiration seized

All Heaven, what this might mean and whither tend,
Wondering.—MILTON, *Paradise Lost*, Bk. iii.

Every day brought in new observers to behold this *admirable* pool, and who had not seen it the day before could not be content with one day's wonder.—POTTER (1645), *The Pool of Blood at Garraton*.

I have been forced to write to him in so high a style, that were my epistle intercepted, it would raise no small *admiration* in an ordinary man. There is scarce an order in it of less importance than to remove such and such mountains, alter the course of such and such rivers, &c.—POPE, *relating to a map of Greece*.

Nothing could be more deplorable than the state even of the ablest men, who depended for subsistence on their writings. Johnson, Collins, Fielding and Thomson, were certainly four of the most distinguished persons that England produced during the eighteenth century. It is well known that all four were arrested for debt. Richardson, like a man of sense, kept his shop and his shop kept him, which his novels, *admirable* as they are, would scarcely have done.—MACAULAY.

Adventure. To venture.

Desiring that he would not *adventure* himself into the Theatre.—*Authorised Version*, Acts xix. 31.

Be not angry,

Most mighty Princess, that I have *adventured*
To try your taking of a false report.

SHAKESPEARE, *Cymbeline*, i. 7.

Men who delight in news are pleased with anything which is matter of fact: a victory or a defeat is equally agreeable to them. They are glad to hear that the French Court is removed to Marli, and are afterwards as much delighted to hear that it is returned to Versailles. They are as pleased to hear of a piebald horse that is strayed out of a field near Islington as of a whole troop that has been engaged in any foreign *adventure*. All matters of fact which a man did not know are news to him

and I do not see how any haberdasher in Cheapside is more concerned in the present quarrel of the Cantons than he was in that of the Hague.—ADDISON.

Adventurer. A trader to foreign parts. The Hudson's Bay Company, which obtained its charter in the time of Charles II, is still called a 'Company of Adventurers.' The word has now a far less creditable sense.

Only these passed a law at the suit of the Merchant *Adventurers* of England against the Merchant *Adventurers* of London for monopolizing and exacting upon the trade.—BACON.

In close connection with the most remarkable passage of Lord Camden's life [libel case] was the conduct and in general the history of Wilkes. We are thus led to speak somewhat of that unprincipled *adventurer* not certainly as having any place among the statesmen of the age but as accidentally connected with their history.—BROUGHAM.

Advise. To consider.

Now she [Jane Shore] is lean, old, and withered, and yet, being even such whoso will *advise* her visage might guess and devise which parts, how fill'd, would make it a fair face.—SIR T. MORE.

Let his travel appear rather in his discourse than in his apparel or gesture; and in his discourse let him be rather *advised* in his answers than forward to tell stories.—BACON.

Advise if this be worth
Attempting, or to sit in darkness here
Hatching vain Empires.—MILTON.

I *advise* people always to go to a place which has some local advantage such as the sea, a forest, river, or lake. These advantages neither time nor fashion nor change can take away. But if you go for the sake of a good neighbourhood, you will soon find it changed to a bad neighbourhood from removals, quarrels, bankruptcies or sickness.—C. NOOTH.

Affectation. Formerly used in a good sense, for affection.

There are or should be bonds of *affectation*, bonds of mutual respects and reciprocal duties betwixt man and wife, and these must hold firm notwithstanding any local separation.—Bishop HALL, *Cases of Conscience*.

Affectation is an awkward and forced imitation of what should be genuine and easy, wanting the beauty which accompanies what is natural.—LOCKE.

What then is the charm, the irresistible charm, of Walpole's writings? His style is one of those peculiar styles by which everybody is attracted and which nobody can safely venture to imitate; he is a mannerist whose manner has become perfectly easy to him, his *affectation* is so habitual and universal that it can hardly be called *affectation*. The *affectation* is the essence of the man.—MACAULAY.

Affront. To confront. The meaning has now passed into one of insult.

Unless another,
As like Hermione as is her picture,
Affront his eye.—SHAKESPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, v. 1.

Your husband [Perkin Warbeck] marched to Taunton, and was there *affronted* with King Henry's Chamberlain.—FORD.

He not only shews them the private letter of their Duchess, but gives it them to carry home wherewith to *affront* her; which they did, she denying it stoutly.—MILTON.

That entertainment and pleasantry called wit, which strikes so lively on the fancy and therefore is so acceptable to all people. The mind without looking any further rests satisfied with the agreeableness of the picture and the gaiety of the fancy, and it is a kind of *affront* to go about to examine it by the severe rules of truth and reason.—LOCKE.

Agony. Formerly, a conflict or struggle: now, always attended with pain.

Two of the most precious things which God hath afforded us here for the *agony* and exercise of our sense and spirit are a

thirst and inhiation after the next life and a frequency of prayer and meditation in this.—DONNE.

When a man looks back with a steady faith on the life and sufferings of his Deliverer, when His *agonies* occur to him, how will he bitterly reflect that he has often forgot them for the applause of the world, for a heap of fleeting past pleasures, which are at present aching sorrows.—STEELE.

Agreeable. Suitable.

In large lakes and rivers fresh running, there is the yellow swan famous and *agreeable* to them.—LYDGATE.

Compared with the labour of reading these volumes all other labour is an *agreeable* recreation. There was, it is said, a criminal in Italy who was suffered to make his choice between Guicciadini and the galleys. He chose the History. But the war of Pisa was too much for him; he changed his mind and went to the oar.—MACAULAY, *Life of Burleigh*.

Aim. To guess. The substantive occurs in the same sense, but in both the meaning has been lost.

That my discovery be not *aimed* at.

SHAKESPEARE, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, iii. 1.

Yet still went on, which way he could not *aim*.

FAIRFAX, *Tasso*, vii. 23.

I profess myself, Sir, an upright and honest member of the British Parliament, and I am not ashamed to profess myself an enemy to all change, and all innovations. I am satisfied with things as they are, and it will be my pride and pleasure to hand down this country to my children as I received it from those who preceded me. Nobody complains of disorder in that shape in which it is the *aim* of your measure to propose a remedy. The business is one of the greatest importance; there is need of the greatest caution and circumspection. Sir, it is impossible to foresee all consequences. The example of a neighbouring nation should fill us with alarm.—SYDNEY SMITH, *Noodle's Oration*.

Airs. Manners. Now used with a sense of affectation.

The charity children to the number of fifty are to appear with their humble *airs* at the parish Church of St. Bride's on Sunday next.—SPECTATOR.

A page in a great author humbles me to the dust, and the conversation of those that are not superior to myself reminds me of what will be thought of myself. And I should dread letters being published some time or other in which they should relate our interviews, and we should appear like those puny, conceited writings in Shenstone and Hughes' correspondence who give themselves *airs* from being in possession of the soil of Parnassus for the time being.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Allow. To approve: now, to permit. *Allowance* occurs in the sense of reputation.

That which I do, I *allow* not.—*Authorised Version, Romans* vii. 15.

And as upon a hill's steep top the south wind pours a cloud
To shepherds thankless, but by thieves that love the night
allow'd.—CHAPMAN, *Iliad*.

His bark is stoutly timber'd, and his pilot
Of very expert and approved *allowance*.

SHAKSPEARE, *Othello*, ii. 1.

In works of a serious nature upon the affairs of real life, as political discourses and orations, figurative style should hardly ever go beyond this. But strict and close metaphor or simile may be *allowed*, provided it be most sparingly used, and that it never deviates from the subject matter so as to make that disappear in the ornament.—BROUGHAM.

Amaze. Formerly, to confound or stupefy.

Bear with me, cousin, for I was *amazed*
Under the tide: but now I breathe again
Aloft the flood.—SHAKSPEARE, *King John*, iv. 2.

I hope I have written nothing in this letter that will displease your Majesty. If I have, I humbly beg of you to consider it as coming from a woman *amazed* with grief.—*Letter of Lady Russell to King Charles*.

More abilities of body and mind than can be supposed in a sick, *amazed*, timorous and weak person.—J. TAYLOR.

He [Addison] never raises merriment or wonder by the violation of truth ; his figures neither divert by distortion, nor *amaze* by aggravation. All the enchantment of fancy and all the cogency of argument are employed to recommend to the reader his real interest, the care of pleasing the Author of his Being. Truth is shewn sometimes as the phantom of a vision, sometimes appears half veiled in an allegory, sometimes attracts regard in the robes of fancy. She wears a thousand dresses, and in all is pleasing.—Dr. JOHNSON.

Amiable. Lovely.

How *amiable* are Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts !—*Prayer Book, Psalm lxxxiv. 1.*

That day when for great Hector's sake to *amiable* Troy
I came to lead the Trojan bands.—CHAPMAN, *Iliad*.

Groves whose fruit, burnish'd with golden rind,
Hung *amiable*.—MILTON.

My poor mother is dead ; I thank God her death was as easy as her life was innocent. There is yet upon her countenance such an expression of tranquillity, nay, almost of pleasure, that it is even *amiable* to behold it.—*Letter of Pope*.

At Athens the laws did not constantly interfere with the tastes of the people. The Athenians are acknowledged even by their enemies to have been distinguished in private life by their courteous and *amiable* behaviour. Freedom produced excellence ; thus were created those models of poetry, of oratory, and of the arts, which scarcely fell short of the standard of ideal excellence.—MACAULAY.

Amiss. A fault or misfortune.

Then, gentle cheater, urge not my *amiss*,
Lest guilty of my faults thy sweet self be.

SHAKESPEARE, *Sonnet cli.*

Daring not presume into your Lordship's presence either to excuse myself, or to crave pardon for my *amisse*.—*Letter to Lord Burghley (1591)*.

When popular discontents have been very prevalent, it may well be affirmed and supported that there has been generally something *amiss* in the constitution or the conduct of Government. The people have no interest in disorder.—BURKE.

Amorous. Worthy of love.

The which peace as I declared is mighty and virtuous, it is fair and gracious, it is sweet and *amorous*.—*Letter of Henry V* (1420).

A Dane is the excess and extravagance of a Dutchman. His understanding is alive only to the useful and profitable, his faculties seem to be drenched and slackened by the eternal fogs in which he resides. He is never alert nor elastic. In all the operations of his understanding he must have time. He loves arithmetic better than lyric poetry, and affects Croker rather than Pindar. He is slow to speak of fountains and *amorous* maidens, but he will make profound and extensive combinations of thought if you pay him for it and do not insist that he shall be either brisk or brief.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Amuse. Once, to engage or occupy seriously, as well as to divert.

He was *amused* how to render up his accounts to the Athenians of their money.—HOLLAND, *Plutarch*.

Men commonly take a view of Nature as from a remote eminence, and are too much *amused* with generalities, whereas if they would descend and approach nearer to particulars, and more exactly and considerately examine into things themselves, they might make more solid and useful discoveries.—BACON.

The terms we sent were terms of weight,
Of hard contents and full of force urged home,
Such as we might perceive *amused* them all,
And stumbled many.—MILTON, *Paradise Lost*, Bk. vi.

Therefore King James politely preferred that heretics hereafter, though condemned, should silently and privily waste themselves away in prison, rather than grace them, and *amuse* others by a public execution.—FULLER.

Reason would contrive such a religion as should afford both sad and solemn thoughts to *amuse* and affect the pensive part of the soul.—Dr. SOUTH.

Perhaps if we have ever been able to afford the reader *amuse-*

ment, it is owing in a great degree to this cause, that we never found ourselves in company with the stupidest of all possible companions in a post-chaise, or with the most arrant cumber-corner that ever occupied a place in a mail-coach, without finding that in the course of conversation with him we had some ideas suggested to us either grave or gay, that we should have regretted not to have heard.—SIR WALTER SCOTT.

Ancient. This word, which was applied equally to the bearers of military colours and to the standard itself, was probably a corruption of *ensign*. In another sense it was used for the old in age as well as in time.

'Tis one Iago, *ancient* to the general.

SHAKESPEARE, *Othello*, v. i.

She cheered her soldiers that foughten for life
With *ancient* and standard, with drum and with fife,
With brave clanging trumpets, that sounded so free ;
Was not this a brave bonny lass, Mary Ambree ?

Old Ballad.

Halting is the stateliest march of the soldier, and 'tis a brave sight to see the flesh of an *ancient* as much torn as his colours. He that mocks at the marks of valour in a soldier's face is likely to have the brands of justice on his own shoulders.—FULLER.

Frost is as proper for winter as flowers for spring ; gravity becomes the *ancient*, and a green Christmas is neither becoming nor healthful.—FULLER.

Our ancestors up to the Conquest were children in arms, chubby boys in the time of Edward the First, striplings under Elizabeth, men in the reign of Queen Anne, and *we* only are the white-bearded silver-headed *ancients* who have treasured up and are prepared to profit by all the experience which human life can supply.—SYDNEY SMITH, *On the Wisdom of Our Ancestors*.

Angel. Once retained its original Greek meaning of 'a messenger.' Now used only in a spiritual sense.

The dear good *angel* of the Spring [the nightingale].

B. JONSON.

But at last I spied
An ancient *angel* coming down the hill,
Will serve the turn.

SHAKESPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, iv. 2.

The Roman *angel's* [eagle] wings shall melt,
And Cæsar's diadem be from his head
Spurned by base feet.—MASSINGER, *Virgin Martyr*.

It is related of the monk Basle, that being excommunicated by the Pope he was at his death sent in charge of an *angel* to find a fit place of suffering in hell. But such was the eloquence and good humour of the monk that wherever he went he was received gladly, and civilly treated even by the most uncivil angels, for such was his contented spirit that he found something to praise in every place. At last, the escorting *angel* returned with his prisoner, saying that no phlegethon would burn him, for that, in whatever condition, Basle remained incorrigibly Basle.—EMERSON.

Animosity. Spirit or energy ; once in a good, now only in a bad sense.

The Queen [Mary Stuart] with incredible *animosity* was mounted *en croupe* behind Sir Arthur Erskine upon a beautiful gelding.—*Letter of Anthony Standen*.

His *animosities* were numerous and bitter. He hated Frenchmen and Italians, Scotchmen and Irishmen, Papists and Presbyterians, Independents and Baptists, Quakers and Jews. Towards London and Londoners he felt an aversion which more than once produced important political effects. Unlettered as he was, and unpolished, he was still in some important points a gentleman. He was a member of a proud and powerful aristocracy, his family pride was beyond a Talbot or a Howard, he knew the genealogies and coats of arms of all his neighbours, he was a magistrate, and as such administered to those who dwelt around him a rude patriarchal justice.—MACAULAY, *On the Country Gentleman of the Seventeenth Century*.

Anon. In one, continuously, immediately : but now, like 'presently,' it implies a future more remote.

The king of Northumberland was king I understande
Of all the land beyond Humber *anon* into Scotlande.

Old Poem (1315).

For hope is but the dream of those who wake ;
 But looking back we see the dreadful train
 Of woes *anon*, which were we to sustain
 We should refuse to tread the path again.—FLETCHER.

As a little snow, tumbled about,
Anon becomes a mountain.

SHAKSPEARE, *King John*, iii. 4.

I love to pore upon old china and to speculate from the images on Cathay. I can fancy that the Chinese manners portray themselves, like the drunkards, in their cups. Lo, here the blooming Hyson is pencilling and curving the cross-bows of her eyebrows, a musical instrument is at her almost invisible feet. Are such little extremities likely to be tasked with laborious offices? By her side the obsequious Ham is pouring his soft flatteries into her ear. When she walketh abroad, *anon* he shadeth her at two miles off with his umbrella. It is like an allegory of Love triumphing over time and space.—T. HOOD.

Answer. Once, to speak or address : now, only to reply.

And Jesus *answered* and said unto it [the fig-tree] : No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever.—*Authorised Version*, Mark xi. 13.

If you have written anything to me which I should have received last night, I beg your pardon that I cannot *answer* it till the next post. Your son at the present writing is mighty well employed in tumbling on the floor of the room and sweeping the sand with a feather, he grows a most delightful child, and is full of play and spirit.—STEELE.

Antics. Once, the performers of odd gestures.

Behold, distraction, frenzy, and amazement,
 Like witless *antics*, one another meet.

SHAKSPEARE, *Troilus and Cressida*, v. 3.

If there be never a servant monster in the fair nor a nest of *antics*.—B. JONSON.

The pagan African is commonly a merry dancing animal, given to every species of *antic* and apish amusement, and as he

is unacquainted with the future and promised delights of the Arabian prophet, he enjoys the bad music and imperfect beauty of this world with a most eager and undisturbed relish.—
SYDNEY SMITH.

Apology. Formerly used in its original Greek sense (*ἀπολογία*) of a justification or vindication : now generally an excuse.

For in the book which is called my *apology*, it is not required by the nature of that name that it be any answer or defence for mine own self at all : but it sufficeth that it be of mine own making an answer or defence for some other.—Sir T. MORE.

The next great event in Bonaparte's history was his usurpation of the supreme power of the State and the establishment of military despotism in France. For this crime but one *apology* can be offered. Napoleon, it is said, seized the reins when, had he let them slip, they would have fallen into other hands ; he enslaved France when, had he spared her, she would have found another tyrant. Admitting the truth of the plea, what is it but the reasoning of the highwayman who robs and murders the traveller because the booty was about to be seized by another hand ?—W. E. CHANNING.

Apparel. Once used for preparation as well as clothing.

For Tullius saith, that longe *appareilling* tofore the bataille, maketh short victorie.—CHAUCER, *Tale of Melibæus*.

He said to his country mote him saile,
And there he would her wedding *apparaile*.—CHAUCER.

Costly thy habit as thy purse can buy ;
But not express'd in fancy : rich, not gaudy :
For the *apparel* oft proclaims the man.

SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*, i. 3.

Lucceius has learning, wit and humour, eloquence, but no ambitious projects to pursue. With these advantages therefore to the ordinary world, he is perhaps thought to want spirit. He desires no man's admiration, is in no need of pomp, his *apparel* pleases him if it is fashionable and warm, his com-

panions are agreeable if they are civil and well-natured. There is with him no occasion for superfluity at meals, for jollity in company—in a word, for anything extraordinary to administer delight to him. In all places he meets with more wit, more good cheer, and more good humour, than is necessary to make him enjoy himself with pleasure and satisfaction.—ADDISON.

Apparent. Once, visible, manifest : now, rather in the uncertain sense of ‘seeming.’

It is *apparent* foul play ; and ’tis shame
That greatness should so grossly offer it.

SHAKSPEARE, *King John*, iv. 2.

Arrest him, officer ;
I would not spare my brother in this case,
If he should scorn me so *apparently*.

Id., *Comedy of Errors*, iv. 1.

Love was not in their looks either to God
Or to each other, but *apparent* guilt
And shame, and perturbation, and despair.—MILTON.

The history of what we are in the habit of calling the state of trade is an instructive lesson. We find it subject to various conditions which are periodically returning. It revolves *apparently* in an established circle. First we find it in a state of quiescence, next improvement—growing confidence—prosperity—excitement—over-trading—convulsion—pressure—stagnation—distress—ending again in quiescence.—LORD OVERSTONE.

Appeal. To accuse ; to refer to for evidence or judgment.

That if a Frenchman do *appeal* an Englishman of perjury or murder, the Frenchman may defend himself by *battaile* which was then termed in English ‘*ernest*,’ a word that we keep yet, saying when we see a man fight, he is in *ernest*.—LAMBARD.

He ’gan that lady strongly to *appeal*
Of many heinous crimes by her enured.—SPENSER.

No removal of paupers should ever take place without due notice to the parish to which the pauper is to be removed, nor

till the time in which it may be *appealed* against is passed by.—
 SYDNEY SMITH.

Apprehensions. } Formerly, sentiments or feel-
Apprehensive. } ings : now, only in connection
 with fear.

Your late letter affected me with two contrary passions : the beginning of it dilated my spirits with *apprehensions* of joy.—
 J. HOWELL.

And since I know your Lordship to be so constant and regular in your devotions, and so tender in the matter of justice, so ready in the expressions of charity, and so *apprehensive* of religion.—
 J. TAYLOR.

The native blacks have become very active in re-taking the convicts. By the extraordinary strength of sight they possess they can trace to a great distance with wonderful accuracy the impressions of the human foot ; nor are they afraid of meeting the fugitive convicts. By their skill in throwing their long wooden darts they wound and disable them and bring them back as prisoners. They are rewarded for these enterprises by presents of maize and blankets ; and notwithstanding their *apprehensions* of revenge from the convicts, they continue to live in their neighbourhood, but are observed to prefer the society of the soldiers.—SYDNEY SMITH *on Botany Bay*.

Appropriate. Peculiar, or confined to ; thence suitable.

He doth nothing but talk of his horse, and he makes it a great *appropriation* to his good parts that he can shoe him himself.—SHAKESPEARE, *Merchant of Venice*, i. 2.

A disease *appropriated* to this country, and whereof there died many.—SIR P. SIDNEY.

We often hear of the magical influence of poetry. The expression in general means nothing, but applied to the writings of Milton it is most *appropriate*. There would seem to be at first sight no more in his words than in other words, but they are words of enchantment. No sooner are they pronounced, than the past is present and the distant near, new forms of beauty spring at once into existence, and all the burial-places of memory give up their dead.—MACAULAY.

Approve. To try : thence, to judge favourably.

Their discipline

Now mingled with their courage will make known

To their *approvers*, they are people such

That mend upon the world.—SHAKSPEARE, *Cymbeline*, ii. 4.

Favouritism is often nothing more than the exercise of faith. The favourite does not exhibit the qualities or character which we especially *approve* of, but somehow or other he calls out our faith and makes us believe there is latent in him the nature we should most admire, and we are rather proud of our supposed discovery and the vigour of our faith.—Sir A. HELPS.

Arch. Used by Shakspeare as a substantive in the sense of 'chief' : now, in union with another word.

The noble Duke my master,

My worthy *arch* and patron, comes to-night.

SHAKSPEARE, *King Lear*, ii. 1.

Banishment of Cicero. Seldom has misfortune so crushed a noble spirit, and never has the 'bitter bread of banishment' seemed more bitter to any one than to him. We must remember that the love of country was a passion with the ancients to a degree which it is now difficult to realise, and exile from it was felt to be an intolerable evil. All this may be urged in his behalf, but still it would have been only consistent with Roman fortitude to have shewn that he possessed something of the spirit of the fallen *archangel*.—FORSYTH'S *Life of Cicero*.

In the further meaning of something sly or roguish.

Dogget thanked me for my visit to him in the winter ; and after his comick manner, spoke his request with so *arch* a leer, that I promised the Drole I would speak to all my acquaintance to be at his play.—*Tatler*.

Array. Plight.

And met the ship driving, as saith the story,

In which Constance sitteth full piteously.

Nothing ne knew he, what she was, ne why

She was in such *array*, she noldé say

Of her estate, although she shouldé die.—CHAUCER.

Burke. Nothing is more remarkable than the variety of ways in which he makes his approaches to any position he would master. After reconnoitering it with skill and boldness, if not with perfect accuracy, he manœuvres with infinite address and *arrays* a most imposing force of general principles mustered from all parts, and pointed sometimes violently enough in one direction; he now moves on with the composed air of the historian and unfolds his facts.—BROUGHAM.

Art. Occurs in the sense of practice.

It is a strange piece of *art* and an exorbitant course, when the ship is sound, the mariners strong, the gale favourable, and the sea calm, to lie idly at the rode during so seasonable weather.—SIR W. RALEIGH.

It is true that in architecture, an *art* which is half a science, an art in which none but a geometrician can excel; an art which has no standard of grace but what is directly or indirectly dependent on utility, an art of which the creations derive a great part at least of their majesty from mere bulk, our country could boast of *one* truly great man, Christopher Wren.—MACAULAY.

Artifice. Scientific scheme, true art: now generally implies deception, or the reverse of what is natural.

The whole *artifice* of nature, the motion of the stars, the properties of the planets and of all created entities,—these shall be the life of the understanding which shall feast itself with so high and certain truths.—J. TAYLOR.

Galen professed he could never enough admire that *artifice* which was in the leg of a fly.—CUDWORTH.

The *artificial* fountains of the metropolis are fast vanishing. The fashion they tell me is gone by, and that these things are childish. Then why not gratify the children by letting them stand? Is the world all grown up—is childhood dead? Or is there not in the bosoms of the wisest and the best some of the child's heart left to respond to its earlier enchantments.—C. LAMB.

Artillery. Formerly applied to all kinds of weapons of war.

Jonathan gave his *artillery* unto his lad, and said unto him, Go, carry them to the city.—*Authorised Version*, 1 Samuel xx. 40.

Then some would leap and some would run,
And some would use *artillery*,
Which of you can a good bow draw
A good archer for to be ?

Old Ballad of Robin Hood.

It was certainly a very bold thought in Milton to ascribe the first use of *artillery* to the rebel angels, but as such a pernicious invention may be well supposed to have proceeded from such authors, so it entered very properly into the thoughts of that being who is all along described as aspiring to the Majesty of his Maker.—ADDISON.

Artisan. } ‘Artisan’ was once used in the modern
Artist. } sense of ‘artist,’ and Waller addresses Van
Dyck as ‘Rare artisan.’ ‘Artist,’ on the other hand,
was a scholar or man of science, and in the following
instances Archimedes and Galileo are so described.

For then the bold and coward,
The wise and fool, the *artist* and unread,
The hard and soft, seem all affined and kin.

SHAKESPEARE, *Troilus and Cressida*, i. 3.

Archimedes spent many days in finding out how much gold would serve to gild a crown of silver, and having found it, he fetched divers skips and cried out, ‘I have found it, I have found it!’ If then the finding out of so mean a truth could so transport this great *artist*, what joy shall the Saints receive when God shall discover to them those high secrets ?—J. TAYLOR.

The broad circumference
Hung on his shoulder like the moon, whose orb
Through optic glass the Tuscan *artist* views
At evening from the top of Fesole,
Or in Valdarno, to descry new lands,
Rivers, or mountains, in her spotty globe.

MILTON, *Paradise Lost*.

The first gaineth skill in the Latin and Greek languages: as for the Arabian and other Oriental tongues, he rather makes sallies and incursions into them, than any solemn sitting before them.—FULLER, *The Generall Artist*.

Sallust's character of Catiline, than whom there was never a greater *artist* in raising seditions, is this, that he had great eloquence and little wisdom.—HOBBS.

A yellow ant in a nest of red ants, a butcher's dog in a fox-hound kennel, a mouse in a beehive, all feel the effects of untimely intrusion. But far preferable their fate to that of the misguided *artisan* who, misled by sixpenny histories of England, and conceiving his country to have been united at the Heph-tarchy, goes forth from his native town to stitch freely within the sea-girt limits of Albion. Him the mayor, him the Aldermen, him the Recorder, him the Quarter Sessions worry.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Art is a serious business, most serious when employed in grand and sacred objects. The *artist* stands higher than art, higher than the object. He uses art for his purposes, and deals with the object after his own fashion.—GOETHE.

Ascertain. To inform.

I did *ascertain* you by my letters the privation of the Abbot of St. Bennett's of his monastery.—*Duke of Suffolk to Cardinal Wolsey*.

As the spice called Cinnamon constitutes the wealth of Ceylon, great pains are taken to *ascertain* its qualities and propagate its choicest kinds. The value of the different bundles can only be ascertained by tasting, an office which devolves upon the medical men of the settlement, who are employed several days together in chewing Cinnamon.—PERCIVAL'S *Ceylon*, 1803.

Aspersions. Once used in its literal meaning of sprinklings: now only in the figurative sense of blame and defamation.

No sweet *aspersion* shall the heavens let fall
To make this contract grow, but deadly hate.

SHAKSPEARE, *Tempest*, iv. i.

The book of Job and many places of the prophets have great *aspersions* of natural philosophy.—BACON.

He [Sir Robert Walpole] was a good-natured man who had seen nothing for thirty years but the worst parts of human nature. He was familiar with the malice of kind, and the perfidy of honourable people. No stain of treachery, of ingratitude, or of cruelty, rests on his memory : factious hatred, whilst flinging on his name every other foul *aspersion*, was compelled to own that he was not a man of blood. It was then a rare and honourable distinction.—MACAULAY.

Assassinate. To assail unawares : now, only with the result of death.

Such usage as your honourable Lords
Afford me, *assassinated* and betrayed,
Who durst not with their whole united powers,
In fight withstand me, single and unarmed.

MILTON, *Paradise Lost*.

The Syrian king, who to surprise
One man, *assassin*-like, had levied war—
War unproclaimed.—MILTON, *Paradise Lost*.

The government [of Russia] is despotic, tempered by *assassination*.—TALLEYRAND.

Assise. To establish. In Chaucer 'assise' means a situation : now, a session, or sitting.

The twelve signs stand *assised*,
That each of them in his partie,
Hath his climate to justifie.—GOWER.

They are too young, too few and too deficient for such civilized machinery at present. I cannot come to serve upon the jury, the waters of the Hawksbury are out and I have a mile to swim ; the kangaroos will break into my corn ; the convicts have robbed me ; my little boy has been bitten by an *ornithorynchus paradoxus* ; I have sent a man fifty miles with a sack of flour to buy a coat for the *Assizes*, and he has not returned.—SYDNEY SMITH (1822).

Assure. To betroth.

The day of their *assuring* drew near.—PEMBROKE'S *Arcadia*.

This drudge or diviner laid claim to me, called me Dromio, swore I was *assured* to her.—SHAKESPEARE, *Comedy of Errors*, iii. 2.

Modern meaning, to assert positively.

A runaway couple were married at Gretna Green. The Smith demanded five guineas. 'How is this?' said the Bridegroom, 'the gentleman you last married *assured* me he only gave you a guinea.' 'True,' said the Smith, 'but he was an Irishman. I have married him six times; you I have never seen before.'—LYTTON.

Astonish. Once, like 'amaze,' to confound or bewilder: now used in the modified sense of 'surprise.'

Th' associates and co-partners in our loss
Lie thus *astonish'd* in th' oblivious pool.—MILTON.

Adam, soon as he heard
The fatal trespass done by Eve, amaz'd,
Astonied stood and blank, while horror chill
Ran through his veins, and all his joints relax'd.

MILTON, *Paradise Lost*.

Astonishment is that state of the soul, in which all its motions are suspended, with some degree of horror.—BURKE.

This work of Dr. Nares has filled us with *astonishment* similar to that which Captain Gulliver felt when he first landed in Brobdignag and saw corn as high as the oaks in Windsor forest, thimbles as large as buckets, and wrens of the bulk of turkeys. The whole book and every component part of it is on a gigantic scale.—MACAULAY, *Life of Burleigh*,

Astrology. } Once synonymous.
Astronomy. }

And as to that part of *Astrology* he mentions, and those other parts of mathematics, the great Cæsar was so skilful that he reformed the year.—JOHN EVELYN.

There was a time when the most powerful of human intellects were deluded by the gibberish of the *Astrologer* and the Alchemist, and just so there was a time when the most enlightened and virtuous statesmen thought it the first duty of a government to persecute heretics, to found monasteries, to make

war on Saracens. But time advances, facts accumulate, doubts arise, faint glimpses of truth begin to appear, and shine more and more unto the perfect day.—MACAULAY.

Old wise *astronomers*

And their sayings I reprove not.—GOWER.

The science of *Astronomy*, which principal is of clergy, to deem between wo and well.—GOWER.

I have no *astronomy*. I do not know where to look for the Bear or Charles' Wain, or the place of any star. I guess at Venus only by her brightness, and if the sun on some particular morn were to make his first appearance in the west, I verily believe that, while all the world were gasping in apprehension about me, I alone should stand unterrified from sheer incuriosity and want of observation.—C. LAMB.

Atone. Formerly, to reconcile : now, to make amends for.

All kindness to the Sire of Gods, and our good mother Queen
That nurs't and kept me curiously, till both have been
Long time at discord—my desire is, *t'atone* their hearts.

CHAPMAN.

I have been *atoning* two most wrangling neighbours.—
BEAUMONT and FLETCHER.

I have given my readers an account of a set of merry fellows who are passing their summer together in the country. They are provided with a great house where there is not only a convenient apartment provided for each person, but a large Infirmary for the reception of such as are any way indisposed or out of humour. On Saturday we received many excuses from persons who found themselves in an unsociable temper, but who *atoned* for it by voluntarily shutting themselves up. Upon going abroad I observed that it was an easterly wind.—
ADDISON.

Attain. Once used of persons in the sense of overtaking.

The Earl hoping to have overtaken the Scottish King and have given him battle, but not *attaining* him in time, sat down before the Castle of Aton.—BACON.

He [Byron] was born to all that men most covet and desire, but in every one of these eminent advantages there was mingled something of misery and debasement. He was sprung from a house, ancient, indeed, and noble, but degraded and impoverished by a series of crimes and follies which had *attained* a scandalous celebrity.—MACAULAY.

Attend. Once meant to 'wait for' as well as to 'wait on.'

I am *attended* at the Cypress grove.

SHAKSPEARE, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, v. 1.

I had thought

They had parted so much honesty among them,
At least good manners, as not thus to suffer
A man of his place, and so near our favour
To dance *attendance* on their Lordships' pleasures.

Id. *King Henry VIII*, v. 2.

Or in their pearly shells at ease *attend*
Moist nutriment, or under rocks their food
In jointed armour watch.—MILTON.

So spread upon a lake with upward eye
A plump of fowl behold their foe on high :
They close their trembling troop, and all *attend*
On whom the rousing eagle will descend.—DRYDEN.

The old Duchess of Marlborough has at last published her Memoirs. They are digested by one Hooke who wrote a Roman History, but from her materials which are so womanish that I am sure the man might sooner have made a gown and petticoat out of them.—HORACE WALPOLE. [It was Hooke who brought a Catholic Priest to *attend* the death bed of Pope, a proceeding which excited such bitter indignation in the infidel Lord Bolingbroke.—LORD DOVER.]

Attorney. Once generally an agent for another : now only in matters of law.

I am still

Attorney'd at your service.

SHAKSPEARE, *Measure for Measure*, v. 1.

Orlando. Then in mine own person, I die.

Rosalind. No, faith, die by *attorney*. The poor world is

almost six thousand years old, and in all this time there was not any man died in his own person, videlicet a love cause.—SHAKESPEARE, *As You Like It*, iv. 1.

G. D. like a dove on the asp's nest takes up his unconscious abode [in Clifford's Inn] amid an incongruous assembly of *attorneys*, attorney's clerks, apparitors, promoters, vermin of the law, among whom he sits 'in calm and sinless peace.' The fangs of the law pierce him not, the winds of litigation blow over his humble chambers, none think of offering violence or injustice to him: you would as soon strike an abstract idea.—C. LAMB.

Audacity. Now generally used only in the sense of shamelessness.

Great effects come by industry and perseverance, for *audacity* doth almost bind and mate the weaker sort of men.—BACON.

As when the wolf has torn a bullock's hide,
At unawares, or ranch'd a shepherd's side :
Conscious of his *audacious* deed he flies,
And claps his quiv'ring tail between his thighs.

DRYDEN'S *Virgil*.

The form and hue of his eyes were wonderfully calculated for showing great varieties of emotion. Their mournful aspect was extremely earnest and affecting, and when he told some dismal and mysterious story, they had a doubtful, melancholy, exploring look which appealed irresistibly to the hearer's imagination. Occasionally when he spoke of something very *audacious* or eccentric they would dilate and light up with a tragic-comic, hare-brained expression, quite peculiar to himself. Never did a man go through all the gradations of laughter with such complete enjoyment and a countenance so radiant.—J. L. ADOLPHUS, on *Sir Walter Scott*.

Austere. Once 'sour' in taste as well as 'severe' in character.

Austere wines diluted with water cool more than water alone, and at the same time do not relax.—BACON.

I fed on scarlet hips and stony haws,
Or blushing crabs, or berries that emboss
The brambles black as jet, or sloes *austere*.—COWPER.

The sweetness of the ripened fruit is not the less delicious for the *austerity* of its tender state.—HORSLEY.

Almost all the distinguished writers who have treated of History are advocates. Mr. Hallam and Sir James Mackintosh alone are entitled to be called judges, but the extreme *austerity* of Mr. Hallam takes away something of the pleasure of reading his learned, eloquent, and judicious writings. He is a judge, but a hanging judge ; his black cap is in constant requisition.—MACAULAY.

Authentic. Formerly, authoritative : now, genuine, original.

Then Nestor cut the gears
With his new-drawn *authentic* sword.—CHAPMAN.

There is as much difference between the present and former times as there is between a copy and an original : that indeed may be fair, but this only is *authentick*.—SOUTH, *Sermon* vii. 14.

Avoid. To go out of ; to quit : now, to shun.

Whereupon six of us only stayed and the rest *avoided* the room.—CHAUCER.

David *avoided* out of his presence twice.—*Authorised Version*, 1 *Samuel* xviii. 11.

To this day the advocates of Charles the First take care to say as little as they can about his visit to the House of Commons, and when they cannot *avoid* mentioning it, attribute to infatuation an act which on any other supposition they must admit to have been a frightful crime.—MACAULAY.

Awful. Once, sensible of fear, as well as causing it.

Know then that some of us are gentlemen,
Such as the fury of unlawful youth
Thrusts from the company of *awful* men.

SHAKESPEARE, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, iv. 1.

He [the invalid] is flattered by the general notion that inquiries are making after him, but he cares not to know the name of the inquirer. In the general stillness and *awful* hush of the house, he lies in state and feels his sovereignty. Compare

the silent tread and quiet ministry, almost by the eye only, with which he is served, with the careless demeanour, the unceremonious goings in and out with which he is served when he is getting a little better (slapping of doors or leaving them open)—how convalescence shrinks a man back to his pristine nature.—C. LAMB.

B.

Baffle. Used in the time of Spenser for the ‘degradation’ of a recreant knight: modern meaning ‘to defeat.’

And after all for greater misery,
He by the heels him hung upon a tree,
And *baffled* so, that all who passed by
The picture of his punishment might see.—SPENSER.

I will be proud, I will read politic matters, I will *baffle* Sir Toby.—SHAKESPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, ii. 5.

Is it just or seemly by such comparisons to disparage his favour, by such pretences to *baffle* with his goodness?—BARROW.

Under the influence of sublime feelings men have sprung up from the dust to shiver the oldest dominions, to toss to the ground the highest despots, to astonish ages to come with the immensity and power and grandeur of human feelings. In all desperate situations, when prudence is mute, when reason is *baffled*, when all ordinary resources of discretion are dried up, there is no safety but in heroic passions, no hope but in sublime men.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Ballad. Once a solemn and sacred as well as a trivial song.

Solomon’s Song was once called ‘The Ballad of Ballads.’—Dr. WATTS.

Thither no more the peasant shall repair,
To sweet oblivion of his daily care;
No more the farmer’s news, the barber’s tale,
No more the woodman’s *ballad* shall prevail.
GOLDSMITH, *Deserted Village*.

The mendicants of London were so many of her sights—her lions—I can no more spare them than I could the Cries of London. No corner of a street is complete without them, they are as indispensable as a *Ballad* singer, and in their picturesque attire as ornamental as the signs of Old London. They were standing morals, emblems, mementos, dial-mottos, the spital sermons, the books for children, the salutary pauses to the high and rushing tide of greasy citizenry.—C. LAMB.

Banquet. Formerly, a final course of sweetmeats, or dessert, for which the guests usually adjourned to a separate room or an arbour.

Four long tables, furnished all with varieties, the first and second course being three score dishes, and after that always a *banquet*.—J. TAYLOR.

Your Citizen

He is a most fierce devourer, Sir, of plums ;
Six will destroy as many as might make
A *banquet* for an army.—*The Wits*.

For *banqueting* stuff as suckets, jellys, sirrups,
I will bring in myself.—MIDDLETON, *Witch*, i. 9.

The strong man may batten on him, and the weakling refuseth not his mild juices, unlike to mankind's mixed characters, a bundle of vices and virtues inexplicably intertwined. He is good throughout ; no part of him is better or worse than another ; he helpeth as far as his little means will allow. All around he is the least envious of *banquets*, he is all neighbours' fare.—C. LAMB, *on Roast Pig*.

Barely. Once, merely : now, scarcely.

The gravity of his conversation is always enlivened with his tact and humour, and the gaiety of it is tempered with something that is instructive as well as *barely* agreeable.—ADDISON.

The study of morality I have above mentioned as that that becomes a gentleman ; not *barely* as a man, but in order to his business as a gentleman.—LOCKE, *Thoughts concerning Reading*.

One method his Lordship takes in handling this question [Catholic claims] is, by pointing out dangers that are *barely* possible, and then treating of them as if they deserved the active and present attention of serious men. His Lordship appears to be in a fog, and as daylight breaks in upon him, he will be rather disposed to disown his panic. The noise he hears is not roaring, the teeth and the mane are all imaginary, there is nothing but ears.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Battle. Formerly an army, or main body of forces.

It is a view of delight to stand or walk upon the shore side, and to see a ship tossed with tempest upon the sea; or to be in a fortified tower and to see two *battles* join upon a plain.—BACON, *Essays*.

Hampden, with his head drooping and his hands leaning on his horse's neck, moved feebly out of the *battle*. The mansion which had been occupied by his father-in-law, and from which in his youth he had carried home his bride, was in sight. There still remains an affecting tradition that he looked for a moment at that beloved house and made an effort to go thither to die. But the enemy lay in that direction—he turned his horse towards Thame.—MACAULAY.

Beast. Old meaning, every living creature.

So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great *beasts*.—*Authorised Version, Psalm civ. 25.*

We have doubts whether one atom of useful influence is added to men in important situations by any colour, quantity, or configuration of cloth and hair. The true progress of refinement we conceive to be to discard all the mountebank drapery of barbarous ages; one row of gold and fur falls off after another from the robe of power, and is pick'd up and worn by the parish beadle and the exhibitor of wild *beasts*.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Beat. Used by Chaucer of kindling sacrificial fires.

An ye be Venus the Goddess of love,
Your vertu is ful grete in Heaven above,

Thy Temple wol I worship evermo,
 And on the Auten wher I ride or go
 I wol do sacrifice and fyres *beet*.—CHAUCER.

How children feel a predisposition for the studies of astronomy or mechanics, is that secret of nature we have not guessed. La Caille was the son of the parish clerk of a village. His father sent him every evening to ring the church bell, but the boy always returned home late and was *beaten* for his misconduct. At length he confessed that the pleasure he took from watching the stars from the steeple was the real cause that he was detained from home.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Befall. Once, to belong to.

Thilke herbe also which him *befalleth*,
 Cicorea the boke him calleth.—GOWER.

Which of the million of creatures that press upon our sight is unhappy in its natural state? Which of them does not by every movement declare that to the full measure of its capacity it is happy? Even among men there is much less misery than is commonly imagined. Many persons can recount every period of their life in which they were unhappy; others can scarcely mention a single misfortune which ever *befell* them, and those to whom afflictive dispensations have fallen how distinctly are they marked in their memory! We notice an eclipse, but we do not so much observe the daily splendour of the sun.—Dr. SOUTHWOOD SMITH.

Begone. Formerly, far gone, sunk deep.

Iris her rainy cope did on,
 The which was wonderly *begone*
 With colours of diversé hew.—CHAUCER.

Away, *begone*, and give a whirlwind room,
 Or I may blow you up like dust. Avaunt!—NATH. LEE.

Behave. Once, to govern, manage, or control: now only relates to personal conduct.

How well my stars *behave* their influence.—DAVENANT.
 He did *behave* his anger ere 'twas spent,
 As if he had but proved an argument.

SHAKSPEARE, *Timon of Athens*, iii. 5.

Sir Roger de Coverley. When I came to the Assizes, a beautiful creature in a widow's habit sat in Court to hear the event of a cause concerning her dower. This commanding creature put on such a resignation in her countenance, and bore the whispers of all around the Court with such pretty uneasiness, I warrant you, and then removed herself from one eye to another till she was perfectly confused. During the time her cause was upon the trial she *behaved* herself with such a deep attention that not only I but the whole Court was prejudiced in her favour, and all that the next heir to her husband had to urge was thought groundless and frivolous.—ADDISON.

Beldam. Grandmother. In Spenser it has the original meaning of *belle dame*, fair lady ; since applied to a sorceress, or fortune-teller.

To give her errand good success,
She took on her the shape of *beldam* Rhæa.—CHAPMAN.

Then sing of secret things that came to pass,
When *Beldam* Nature in her cradle was.—MILTON.

Sir Roger observing that I listened with great attention to his account of a people so entirely new to me [Gipsies] told me that if I would, they should tell us our fortunes. Sweethearts, said he, are the things they live upon ; a *beldam* of the crew after having examined my lines told me that I loved a pretty maid, and that I was a good woman's man.—SPECTATOR.

Bent. Used by Spenser for 'grass' in general : later, a particular kind of plant.

Like as the bird that having close imbar'd
Her tender young ones in the springing *bent*.
SPENSER.

June is drawn in a mantle of dark grass green; upon his head is a garland of *bents*, king-cups, and maiden-hair.—PEACHAM.

Betake. Once, to assign or deliver to : now, always to take *oneself*, or resort to.

Planet Saturn. This herbé which is him *betake*,
I note Heleborem the blake.—GOWER.

Judas Scariot went forth to the princis of prestis, and seide to him, what wolen ye give to me and I schall *bitake* him to you.—WICLIF, *Matt.* xxvi.

Pope then formed part of the Addisonian court for a short time, and describes himself in his letters as sitting with that coterie until two o'clock in the morning over punch and Burgundy. Amidst the fumes of tobacco it was too hard, too coarse a life for the sensitive poet. With regard to his own manners, they were singularly refined and polished. Bolingbroke, writing to Swift from Dawley, dating his letters at six in the morning, and rising refreshed, serene, and calm, calls to mind the time of his London life, when about that hour he used to *betake* himself to rest.—THACKERAY.

Bible. Applied by Chaucer in its literal meaning to any kind of book.

To tell all would passen any *bible*
That o where is.—CHAUCER, *The Canon's Tale*.

At the time when that odious style which deforms the writings of Hall and of Lord Bacon was almost universal, had appeared that stupendous work the English *Bible*, a book which if everything else in our language should perish, would alone suffice to show its beauty and power. The respect which the translators felt for the original prevented them from adding any of the hideous decorations then in fashion.—MACAULAY.

Bickering. Formerly, open fighting: now, confined to words without blows.

The *bickering* was doubtful and intricate, part on the water, part on the sands, not without loss of some eminent men on the English side.—MILTON.

That if the lord privie seal his footmen had not with their swords kept them off, they in the coach had been brought in danger of their lives, having after long and continual *bickerings* much ado to recover their lodgings.—*Rejection of King Charles Service Book by the Scots*.

We house together, my cousin Bridget and I, in a sort of double singleness. We agree pretty well in our tastes and habits, yet so as with a difference. We are generally in harmony, with occasional *bickerings*—as it should be among near relations. Our sympathies are rather understood than expressed, and once upon my dissembling a tone in my voice more kind than ordinary my cousin burst into tears and complained that I was altered.—C. LAMB.

Bid. To 'bid beads' was to say prayers. The 'bidding prayer' exhorts or directs to pray.

When that he should *bid* his bead,
He doth his theft in holie stede.—GOWER.

This carpenter said his devotion,
And still he sit and *biddeth* his prayer,
Awaiting on the rain, if it he heare.

CHAUCER, *The Miller's Tale*.

The *bid* stood at five hundred guineas : 'A thousand guineas,' said Earl Spencer : 'and ten,' added the Marquis of Blandford. The contest proceeded until the Marquis said 'Two thousand pounds' : two thousand two hundred and fifty was bid by Earl Spencer : 'and ten,' added the Marquis. There ended the strife. The ivory instrument swept the air—the spectators stood dumb. When the hammer fell the stroke of its fall sounded to the furthest shores of Italy : the tap of that hammer was heard in the libraries of Rome, Milan, and Venice. Boccaccio stirred in his sleep of five hundred years, and M. Van Praet groped in vain among the royal alcoves in Paris to detect a copy of the famed Valdarfen Boccaccio.—EMERSON.

Biggin. A covering for the head worn by children, nuns, and old women : since applied to a bowl, as in 'coffee-biggin.'

A *biggin* he had got about his braine,
For in his head-piece he gat a sore pain.—CHAUCER.

How many dangers meet
Betwixt the *biggin* and the winding-sheet.—QUABLES.

Black-guard. Originally, the inferior retainers of a house, engaged in menial occupations.

It is a faith
That we will die in, since from the *black guard*
To the grim Sir in office there are few
Hold other tenets.—BEAUMONT and FLETCHER.

It is quite clear from a very early age Bunyan was a man of a strict life and tender conscience. He had been, says Mr. Southey, a *blackguard*: bell-ringing and playing at hockey on Sunday seem to be the worst vices of this depraved tinker. But it is surely unfair to apply so strong a term to one who is only what the great mass of every community must necessarily be.—MACAULAY.

Blank. Formerly, white: now, void. Donne uses '*blank charter*' for *carte blanche*.

To the *blank* moon
Her office they prescribed: to the other five
Their planetary motion.—MILTON.

Men do not stand
In so ill case, that God hath with his hand
Signed king's *blank*-charters, to kill whom they hate.

D Donne, *Sat.* iii.

There is no giving an account how she delivered the disguised story of her love for Orsino. It was no set speech. When she had declared her sister's history to be a *blank*, and that she never told her love, there was a pause, as if the story had ended. And then—the image of the worm in the bud came up as a new suggestion, and the heightened image of the 'Patience' still followed upon that, as if by some growing process of thought, I would say as if it were watered by her tears.—C. LAMB, *Mrs. Jordan's Viola*.

Bless. Used by Spenser in the sense of waving or brandishing.

Whom when the Prince to battle new address'd,
And threat'ning high his dreadful stroke did see,

His sparkling sword about his head he *bless'd*,
And smote off quite his right leg by the knee.

SPENSER.

It is twice *blessed*,
It *blesseth* him that gives, and him that takes.

SHAKSPEARE, *Merchant of Venice*, iv. 1.

Bloat. To smoke-dry; probably from *blozen*:
now, to puff up.

For herrings in the sea are large and full,
But shrink in *bloating* and together pull.—SYLVESTER.

Boswell. Servile and impertinent, shallow and pedantic, *bloated* with family pride, yet stooping to be a tale-bearer, an eaves-dropper, a common butt in the taverns of London. . . . Yet the 'Life of Johnson' is assuredly a great—a very great—work. Homer is not more decidedly the first of heroic poets, Shakspeare is not more decidedly the first of dramatic poets, Demosthenes is not more decidedly the first of orators, than Boswell is the first of biographers. He has no second, he has distanced all his competitors so decidedly, that it is not worth while to place them. Eclipse is first, and the rest nowhere.—MACAULAY.

Bodkin. A sword, or dagger.

But on a time Brutus and Cassius
That ever had of his estat envie,
Full privilie had made conspiracie
Against this Julius in subtil wise:
And caste the place wherein he should die
With *boydèkynes*, as I shal you devise.—CHAUCER.

When he himself might his quietus make
With a bare *bodkin*.—SHAKSPEARE, *Hamlet*, iii. 1.

He is, you must know, one of those familiar coxcombs who have observed some well-bred men with a good grace converse with women and say no fine things, but yet treat them with that sort of respect which flows from the heart and the understanding, but is exerted in no professions or compliments. This puppy to imitate this excellence takes upon him to try this

talent upon me, insomuch that he contradicts me upon all occasions, and one day told me that I lied! If I had struck him with my *bodkin*, and behaved myself like a man, since he won't treat me like a woman, I had, I think, served him right.—*Spectator*.

Boot. Formerly used for booty as well as profit; plunder.

And every grass that groweth upon root,
She shall eke know to whom it mot do *boot*.

CHAUCER.

Others like soldiers armed in their stings
Make *boot* upon the summer's velvet buds.

SHAKSPEARE, *Henry V*, i. 2.

He might have his mind and manners formed, and be instructed *to-boot* in several sciences.—LOCKE.

Borrow. Once a security for a loan, a pledge. The substantive is now obsolete.

And Love said, I trust thee without *borrow*, for I wol none.—CHAUCER.

Like valiant champions advance forth thy standard, and assay whither your enemies decide and try the title of bataille by dint of sword. Advance, I say; forward, my captains—now St. George *to borrow*! Let us forth.—HOLINSHED.

I pray God and St. Nycholas that was thy *borrowe* that hard vengeance come to thee.—*Dives and Pauper*.

The style of Bunyan is delightful to every reader, and invaluable as a study to every person who wishes to obtain a wide command over the English language. There is no book in our literature on which we would so readily stake the fame of the old unpolluted English language, no book which shows so well how rich that language is in its own proper wealth, and how little it has improved in all that it has *borrowed*.—MACAULAY.

Bottle. A loosely-tied bundle of hay. The expression is still used in some of the northern counties.

Is that a cook of London, with meschance?
Do him come forth, he knoweth his penance,

For he shall tell a talé by my fay,
 Altho' it be not worth a *botel* hay.

CHAUCER, *The Manciple's Tale*.

Titania. Or, say, sweet love, what thou desirest to eat.

Bottom. Truly a peck of provender: I could munch your good dry oats. Methinks, I have a great desire to a *bottle* of hay: good hay, sweet hay hath no fellow.—SHAKESPEARE, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, iv. 1.

But I should wither in one day and pass
 To a cock of hay, that am a *bottle* of grass.—FLETCHER.

Looking for a needle in a *bottle* of hay.—RAY'S *Proverbs*.

Brag. Applied in the following instance to lambs, apparently in the sense of noisy.

The early sun came lively dancing out,
 And the *brag* lambs ran wantoning about
 That heaven and earth might seem
 In triumph both to shout.—FLETCHER.

The motions of the mind of lovers are nowhere so well described as in the works of skilful writers for the stage. The scene between Fulvia and Curius in Johnson's *Catiline* is an excellent picture of the power of a lady over her lover. She plays with his affections, and as a man wishes to make a good figure with his mistress, upon her upbraiding him with want of spirit, he alludes to enterprises which he cannot reveal but with the hazard of his life. When he is worked thus far, with a little flattering of his gallantry and a desire to know more, he *brags* to her till his life is in her hands.—STEELE.

Brand. Formerly used for a sword, from the flash and glitter of the steel.

They looking back all the Eastern side beheld
 Of Paradise, so late their happy seat,
 Waved over by that flaming *brand*, the gate
 With dreadful faces throng'd and fiery arms.

MILTON, *Paradise Lost*.

Napoleon. The kind of admiration which his name inspired even in free countries is a bad omen. The greatest crime against society, that of spoiling it of its rights and loading it with chains, still fails to move that deep abhorrence which is its due, and which if really felt would fix on the usurper a *brand* of indelible infamy. Regarding freedom as the chief interest of human nature, we look on men who have signalised themselves by their hostility to it with an indignation at once stern and sorrowful, which no glare of successful war can induce us to suppress.—W. E. CHANNING.

Brave. Showy, fine, ostentatious, in word or dress.

Enter Tranio, *bravely apparelled*.—SHAKSPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, i. 2.

Grumio [To the Tailor]. Face not me : thou hast *braved* many men : *brave* not me : I will neither be faced nor *braved*.—Id. iv. 3.

They were all in goodly gilt armors, and *brave* purple cassocks upon them, spicke and span new.—NORTH.

Prince of Wales, afterwards George II. I told him that before his coming hither I and my children had constantly drunk his health by the name of 'young Hanover *Brave*,' which was the title Mr. Congreve had given him in a ballad.—LADY COWPER'S *Diary*.

There still remained in his party many acute intellects, many *brave* and honest hearts ; the valour and energy of Cromwell, the discernment and eloquence of Vane, the humanity and moderation of Manchester, the stern integrity of Hale, and the ardent public spirit of Sidney. But in Hampden and Hampden alone were united all the qualities which at such a crisis were necessary to save the State.—MACAULAY.

Bray. To utter aloud ; to break into clamour : now an ass only can bray.

Whiles the sad pang approaching she doth feel,
Brays out her latest breath, and up her eyes doth seal.

SPENSER.

As if nine or ten thousand men had *bray'd* out all their breath.—CHAPMAN.

A devotee is one of those who disparage religion by their indiscreet and unseasonable mention of virtue on all occasions. We have an eminent lady of this stamp who pretends to amusements very much above the rest of her sex. When she went to the famous Ass-race it was not, like other ladies, to hear those poor animals *bray*, or see fellows run half naked, but to pray heartily that nobody might be hurt in the crowd, and to see if the poor fellow's face that was distorted with grinning might any way be brought to itself again. Folly and vanity in this case is like vice in a clergyman, it does not only debase him, but it makes the inconsiderate part of the world think the worse of religion.—STEELE.

What signifies a lion's skin,
If it conceal an ass within ?
If thou'rt a lion, prithee roar ;
If ass, *bray* once, and stalk no more.

LLOYD'S *Letters*.

Breast. Once used for the voice and lungs.

Pray ye stay a little, let's hear him sing ; he has a fine *breast*.—BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Pilgrim*, iii. 6.

Which said quiresters after their *breasts* are changed, &c.—STRYPE, *Life of Archbishop Parker*.

A man's *breast* giveth a great ornament to all these instruments.—HOBBY'S *Castilio*, i. 3.

The Three Misses Dennett. Such figures no doubt gave rise to fables of the heathen mythology, and might be worshipp'd. They revive the ancient ideas of classic grace, life, and joy—each owes a double charm to her reflection of the other two : it is the principle of harmony and proportion personified. Not to feel the force of their united charm, united yet divided, different and yet the same, is not to see the beauty of three red roses on a stalk, or of the mingled hues of the rainbow, or of the halcyon's *breast* reflected in the stream.—HAZLITT.

Bribe. Formerly, to rob or steal. In Shakspeare a buck and cygnets are 'bribed.'

Who saveth a thief when the rope is knet,
With some false turn the *bribour* will him quite.

LYDGATE.

Fox, in the first half of his political career, while Lord North was losing America, and in the latter half while Mr. Pitt was ruining Europe, the creatures of the government were eternally exposed to the attacks of this discerning, dauntless, and most powerful speaker. Folly and corruption never had a more terrible enemy in the English House of Commons—one whom it was so impossible to *bribe*, so hopeless to elude, and so difficult to answer.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Brief. A letter.

Hie, good Sir Michael, bear this sealed *brief*
With winged haste to the Lord Mareshal:
This to my cousin Scroop, and all the rest
To whom they are directed.

SHAKSPEARE, I *Henry IV*, iv. 4.

As for Tibullus's reports
They never passed for law in courts;
For Cowley's *briefs*, and pleas of Waller,
Still their authority was smaller.

SWIFT, *Cadenus and Vanessa*.

How cold and dead a figure in comparison of these Greek orators does a man make at the British bar, holding his *brief* and stroking the sides of a long wig that reaches down to his middle. The truth is, there is nothing more ridiculous than the gestures of an English speaker. You see some of them running their hands into their pockets, others looking with great attention on a piece of paper that has nothing written on it.—ADDISON.

Brittle. Uncertain.

And when this letter was forth sent, anon,
And knew how *brittle* and how false he was,
She for despair fore-did herself alas!—CHAUCER.

Into the *brittle* port, where anchor hold doth fail.

SURREY.

Aristocratic Wife. Upon her first coming into my family she turned off a parcel of very careful servants, and introduced in their stead a couple of Black-a-moors and three or four genteel fellows in laced liveries. Besides her Frenchwoman, she next set herself to reform every room in my house, planting every corner with such heaps of china that I am obliged to move with the greatest caution, for fear of hurting our *brittle* furniture.—*Spectator*.

Bulk. Once synonymous with 'body.'

Long stood I in a dumpe,

My hart began to ake:

My liver leapt within my *bulck*,

My trembling hands did shake.—TURBERVILLE.

He raised a sigh so piteous and profound,

That it did seem to shatter all his *bulk*,

And end his being.—SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*, ii. 1.

His gait and walking was very upright and graceful, becoming his well shapen *bulk*.—*Description of Fuller*.

Statesmen of George III. It remains to be explained why the dialogue upon Monarchical and Republican Government should be omitted in the present publication after being announced in the advertisement. Besides the inconvenience of increasing its *bulk*, it would have given the book a controversial aspect.—BROUGHAM.

Busy. Steady, careful: now used rather in the sense of being occupied.

The moon.—That like as her desire

Is to be quick'd and lighted at your fire,

For which she followeth you so *busily*.—CHAUCER.

And he sent him into Bethleem, and said, go ye and axe ye *busily* of the childe, and whan ye han founden tell ye it to me.—WICLIF'S *Bible*, *Matthew* ii.

Whilst my mind grows more independent of the world, the ideas of friendship return oftener—they *busy* me, they warm me

more. Is it that we grow more tender as the moment of our great separation approaches, or is it that they who are to live together in another world begin to feel more strongly that divine sympathy which is to be the great band of their future society? There is no one thought that soothes my mind like this.—
BOLINGBROKE to *Swift*.

Buxom. Formerly, yielding, obedient. Verstegan says that buxomness is ‘pliableness or bowsomeness, to wit, humbling, stooping or bowing done in sign of obedience.’ Afterwards, joyous, comely.

That unto him which the head is,
The members *buxom* shall bow.—GOWER, *Prologue*.

The nere this hill was on chance
To taken his deliverance;
The more *unbuxomly* he cried,
And every man was fled aside
For dreed, and left his owne hous,
And at the last—it was a mous!

Id., *Confessio Amantis*, Bk. vi.

That thee is sent receive in *buxsommeness*,
The wrastling of this world asketh a fall;
Here is no home, here is but wilderness.
Forth, pilgrim, forth, O best out of thy stall
Loke up on high, and thank thy God of all.

CHAUCER.

So *buxsom* and so virtuous is she
They mosten need live in unité.—Id.

And they with humble heart ful *buxomely*
Kneeling upon their knees ful reverently.

Id., *The Clerk's Tale*.

So wild a beast so tame ytaught to be,
And *buxom* to his bands is joy to see.—SPENSER.

He with broad sails
Winnowed the *buxom* air.—MILTON.

So *buxom*, blithe and debonair.—Id.

The crew with merry shouts their anchors weigh,
Then ply the oars, and brush the *buxom* sea,
While troops of gather'd Rhodians crowd the quay.

DRYDEN.

Sturdy swains
In clean array for rustic dance prepare,
Mix't with the *buxom* damsels hand in hand.

AMBROSE PHILIPS.

The first I encountered were a parcel of *buxom* bonny dames,
that were laughing, singing, dancing, and as merry as the day
was long.—*Tatler*, No. 273.

Where *buxom* Ceres bade each fertile field
Spontaneous gifts in rich profusion yield.

FALCONER'S *Shipwreck*, c. 3.

By and by. Like *anon*, once 'immediately,' but
gradually came to imply a more remote future.

So passed he the sea by barge
To Greece, there to say his charge,
The which he said readily
Unto the Lords *by and by*.—GOWER.

Withouten oar or pilot it to guide,
Only she turn'd a pin, and *by and by*
It cut away upon the yielding waves.—SPENSER.

Now a sensible man, *by and by* a fool, and presently a
beast.—SHAKESPEARE, *Othello*, ii. 3.

For the life of man comes upon him slowly and insensibly,
but as when the sun approaching towards the gates of the
morning, he first opens a little eye of heaven and sends away
the spirits of darkness and calls up the lark to mattins, and
by and by he gilds the fringes of a cloud and peeps over the
distant hills, thrusting out his golden horns like those which
decked the brows of Moses; and still, while a man tells the
story, the sun gets up higher, till he shows a full face and full
light, under a cloud often, and sometimes weeping great and
little showers, and sets quickly, so is a man's reason and his
life.—J. TAYLOR.

C.

Calendar. Once used, as well as in its present sense, generally for 'a guide.'

That thou foregat her in thy song to set,
Syn that thou art so greatly in her debt,
And wost well that *kalender* is she
To any woman, that wol louver be.

CHAUCER, *Prologue of Cleopatra*.

The old year being dead and the new year coming of age, which he does by *Calendar* Law as soon as the breath is out of the old gentleman's body, nothing would serve the young spark but he must give a dinner on the occasion to which all the Days of the Year were invited. All the Days came to their days; covers were provided for 365 guests, with an occasional knife and fork for the 29th of February. Well, they all met at last, but old Lent and his family were not yet out of mourning, rainy Days came in dripping, and sun-shiny Days help'd them to change their stockings. Wedding Day was there in his marriage finery. Pay Day came late, as he always does, and Doom's Day sent word he might be expected.—C. LAMB.

Candid. } Formerly meant 'white,' generally of
Candidate. } a pure and dazzling colour. A *can-*
didatus was so called from wearing a robe of the purest
white.

Titus Andronicus, the people of Rome,
Whose friend in justice thou hast ever been,
Send thee by me, their tribune and their trust,
This palliament of white and spotless hue ;
And name thee in election for the Empire,
With those our late deceased Emperor's sons,
Be *Candidatus* then and put it on,
And help to set a head on headless Rome.

SHAKSPEARE, *Titus Andronicus*, i. 2.

Ah mild and gall-less dove,
Which dost the pure and *candid* dwelling love,
Canst thou in Albion still delight,
Still canst thou call it white?—COWLEY.

Most plants, though green above ground, maintain their original white below it according to the *candour* of their seminal pulp.—W. BROWN (1660).

Mitford's History of Greece. Mr. Mitford has almost succeeded in mounting unperceived by those whose office it is to watch such aspirants, to a high place amongst historians; he has taken a seat on the dais without being challenged by a single seneschal; had he been reviewed by *candid* severity when he published his first volume, his work would either have deserved its reputation or would never have obtained it.—MACAULAY.

Capable. Once, susceptible, able to hold.

Thou shalt be punished for thus frightening me,
For I am sick and *capable* of fears.

SHAKESPEARE, *King John*, iii. 1.

The convex or out-bowed side of a vessel will hold nothing; it must be the hollow and depressed part that is *capable* of any liquor.—Bishop HALL.

Monsieur Dumont. With every right to the head of the board, he took the lowest room and well deserved to be greeted with 'Friend, go up higher.' Though no man was more *capable* of achieving for himself a separate and independent renown he attached himself to others, he laboured to raise their fame.—MACAULAY.

Capacity. Used in the sense of a commission or authority.

Wherefore I commanded him to accept their *capacities* from the King's Grace with as much favor as the Bishop of Rouen's *capacities* before had been received.—R. DEVEREUX to Lord Cromwell.

Mr. Hallam says most truly that, though it is impossible to rank Cromwell with Napoleon as a General, yet his exploits were as much above the level of his contemporaries, and more the effects of an original uneducated *capacity*. Bonaparte was

trained in the best military schools, Cromwell never look'd on war till he was more than forty years old—he never fought a battle, without gaining a victory.—MACAULAY.

Capitulate. Formerly, to settle heads of agreement, and so to combine: now, only to make terms of peace or surrender.

The Archbishop's Grace of York, Douglas, Mortimer,
Capitulate against us and are up.

SHAKESPEARE, 1 *Henry IV*, iii. 2.

Hath our familiar commercé and trading,
Almost as with our equals, taught you to
Dispute our actions? Have you quite forgot
What we are, and you ought to be? Shall vassals
Capitulate with their Lords?—MASSINGER.

That the *capitulation* of Limerick had been construed in a manner far too favorable to the conquered race, and that the King had suffered his compassion to lead him into the error of showing indulgence to many who could not pretend that they were within the terms of the *capitulation*.—MACAULAY.

Careful. Full of care or distress: now, cautious, painstaking.

Break we our pipes that shrilled as loud as larks,
O *careful* verse.—SPENSER.

All night he watch and warden keeps
Never his *careful* head on resting pillow sleeps.

FLETCHER.

Horace Walpole. His portraitures do not belong to an Historical Gallery but they have their price as a portfolio of brilliant caricatures by an artist who might have done much better. He illustrates his knowledge of the world by anecdotes and witticisms, by the authority of his own imperial opinion; unlike Rochefoucauld who dissects and analyses, he does not aim at *careful* and scrupulously accurate delineations.—*Caxtoniana*.

Carol. Used by some old writers for a dance, like the French *carolle*: now only a song or hymn.

For she was wont in every place,
 To singen first folk to solace,
 Then mightest thou *Karoles* sene
 And folk dance and merry bene.—CHAUCER.

There, on a day, as he persew'd the chace,
 He chanc't to spy a sort of shepherd groomes,
 Playing on pipes and *caroling* apace,
 The whiles their beastes there in the budded broomes,
 Beside them fed.—SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*.

They kept up the Christmas *carol*, sent true love knots on Valentine morning, eat pancakes on Shrovetide, showed their wit on the first of April, and religiously crack'd nuts on Michaelmas eve.—GOLDSMITH.

Carp. Formerly, to jest, recite or relate : now, to cavil or find fault.

Merry it is in hall, to hear the harpe
 The minstrels sing, the *Jogeleurs carpe*.—CHAUCER.

With that a Clerk kneeled down and *carped* these words.—PERCY.

Trial of Lord Strafford. Sir David Foulis, whom he had crushed, came to depose. Strafford *carped* against this witness as one who had quarrelled with him. Maynard produced against him his own decree, subscribed by his own hand, that whereas Sir David had brought before him the same exception against a witness, he had decreed that a witness for the King and Commonwealth must be received, notwithstanding any private quarrels. When he saw his own hand, he said no more but in a jesting way, 'You are wiser, my Lord Steward, than to be ruled by any of my actions as patterns.'—*Journal of Robert Baillie*.

Cart. Used for a chariot.

The sun his *cart* hath faire and well
 In which he sette.—GOWER.

The statue of Mars upon a *carte* stood armed.—CHAUCER.

Triptolemus, so sung the nine,
 Strew'd plenty from his *cart* divine.—DRYDEN.

I was introduced by Rogers to Madame D'Arblay, the celebrated authoress of *Evelina* and *Cecilia*—an elderly lady with no remains of personal beauty, but with a simple gentle manner. She told me she had wished to see two persons—myself of course being one, and George Canning. This was really a compliment to be pleased with, a nice little handsome pat of butter made up by a neat-handed Phyllis of a dairy maid, instead of the grease fit only for *cart-wheels*.—SIR W. SCOTT.

Carve. Not always confined to cutting meat, stone, or wood.

Natheless hands of man hadden *kerve* that cloth.

CHAUCER.

Or they will buy the sheep forth of the cote,

Or they will *carve* the shepherd's throat.—SPENSER.

We think that government should be organised solely with a view to its main end, and that no part of its efficiency should be sacrificed to promote any other end however excellent. A blade which is designed both to shave and *carve* will certainly not shave so well as a razor, or *carve* so well as a carving-knife.—MACAULAY.

Cassock. Once, a vestment worn by a soldier as well as a priest.

He will never come within reach of a *cassock* or a musket-rest again.—B. JONSON.

But when Ulysses

Again shall greet us, he shall put thee on

Both coat and *cassock*.—CHAPMAN'S *Odyssey*, Bk. xv.

Luther's clear deep force of judgment, his force of all sorts, of silence, of tolerance and of modification, are very notable. Tolerance, a very genuine kind of tolerance : he distinguishes what is essential and what is not. A complaint comes to him that such and such a reformed preacher will not preach without a *cassock*. Well, answers Luther, what harm will a *cassock* do the man ? Let him have a *cassock* to preach in, let him have three *cassocks* if he finds benefit in them.—CARLYLE.

Cast. To cast in the mind, to contrive.

Weak wretch, I wrapt myself in Palmer's weed,
And *cast* to seek him forth through danger and through drede.

SPENSER.

Inconsistent Metaphors. There is not anything in the world that may not be compared to several things if considered in several distinct lights, but the mischief is that an unskilful author shall run these metaphors so absurdly into one another that there shall be no simile, no agreeable picture, no apt resemblance, but confusion, obscurity, and noise. Thus have I known a hero compared to a thunder-bolt, a lion, and the sea—all and each of them proper metaphors for impetuosity, courage, or force, but by bad management it hath so happened that the thunder-bolt hath overflowed its bank, the lion hath been darted through the skies, and the billows have rolled out of the Lybian desert; and yet every time that clashing metaphors are *cast* together this fault is committed.—ADDISON.

Censure. Once, merely an opinion: now, a condemnation.

Madam, and you my mother, will you go
To give your *censures* in this weighty business?

SHAKSPEARE, *Richard III*, ii. 2.

I'll relate my *censure* what's our best.—CHAPMAN.

All praise is dull except to the person praised, his wife, his grown-up daughters, and perhaps one or two intimate friends. Such is mankind. I cannot help it. If it were a question of voting, I should vote that laudation should be as amusing as *censure*, but it cannot be made so, and there is an end of the matter.—Sir A. HELPS.

Ceremonies. Used by Shakspeare for superstitious fear of omens.

Cæsar, I never stood on *ceremonies*,
Yet now they fright me.

SHAKSPEARE, *Julius Cæsar*, ii. 2.

Catholics (time of Elizabeth). The Catholic party were not always scrupulous about the usual artifices of an oppressed people, meeting force by fraud, and concealing their heartfelt

wishes under the mask of ready submission or even zealous attachment. A great majority both of clergy and laity yielded to the times, and of these temporising conformists it cannot be doubted that many lost by degrees all thought of returning to their ancient fold. But others, while they complied with exterior *ceremonies*, retained in their private devotions their accustomed mode of worship.—HALLAM.

Cheer. Used by the old writers for ‘countenance,’ as well as in its modern sense.

And then he rode with dreary *cheer*.—CHAUCER.

Casten wrathly the *cheer* downward to the earth.—Id.

For if ony man is an heerer of the word and not a doer, this schal be likened to a man that biholdith the *cheer* of his birth in a myrrour.—WICLIF’S *Bible*, James i.

Sir Roger, after the laudable custom of his ancestors, always keeps open house at Christmas. I learn from him that he has killed eight fat hogs for this season, that he has dealt about his chines very liberally, and that he had sent a string of hog’s puddings and a pack of cards to every poor family in the parish. I have often thought, says Sir Roger, that it happens well that Christmas should fall in the middle of winter; it is the most dead uncomfortable time of the year, when the poor would suffer very much from their poverty and cold if they had not good *cheer* to support them.—ADDISON.

Chepe. ‘Market’ seems to have been the meaning of this obsolete noun. ‘Good-chepe,’ like *bon marché*, was something well-bought, while a bargain in favour of the seller was said to be ‘ill-chepe,’ or dear. The first only of these two terms has passed into the modern word ‘cheap.’

That in all borough-towns and through-fares there should be hostellers having stables, and chambers, and bread and ale, and all other food, after the *chepes* of the country.—*Statute of James I.*

He’ll not get anything *good chepe* that is afraid to ask the price.—RAY.

From the 19th of January to the 2nd of February inclusive is exactly fifteen days, during which time I have written a volume. A volume at *cheapest* is worth a thousand pounds. This is working at the rate of twenty-four thousand a year, but then we must not bake buns faster than people have the appetite to eat them : they are not essential to the market like potatoes.—Sir W. SCOTT.

Chest. Chaucer and other writers down to the time of Milton use this word for a ‘coffin.’

Nor can he be at rest within his sacred *chest*,
Naught but profoundest hell can be his shroud.—MILTON.

I look upon a playhouse as a world within itself. They have lately furnished the middle region with a new set of meteors in order to give the sublime to many modern tragedies. I was there last winter at the rehearsal of the new thunder, which is much more deep and sonorous than any hitherto made use of. Their lightnings are made to flash more briskly than heretofore, their clouds are better furbelowed and more voluminous, not to mention a violent storm lock’d up in a great *chest* that is designed for the *Tempest*.—*Spectator*.

Chop. Old writers employed this word in the sense of ‘bandying,’ either in bargaining or argument.

And whereas you charge me with malapertness, in that I presume to *chop* logike with you being governour, by answering your snappish *quid* with a knappish *quo*. I wold wish you to understand, now that you put me in mind of the distinction, that I as a subject honour your roiall authoritie, but as a nobleman I despise your dunghill gentilitie.—HOLINSHED.

The *chopping* of bargains, when a man buys not to hold, but to sell again, grinds upon the seller and the buyer.—BACON.

Let not the counsel at the bar *chop* with the judge.—Id.

Clergy. Once, learning ; of which the clergy so long had a monopoly.

Of craftes both and of *clergie*,
Among the which is poesie.—GOWER.

An ounce of mother's wit is worth a pound of *clergie*.—RAY.

The progress of the ecclesiastical authority gave birth to the memorable distinction of the laity and of the *clergy*, which had been unknown to the Greeks and Romans. The former of these appellations comprehended the body of the Christian people; the latter, according to the signification of the word, was appropriated to the chosen portion that had been set apart for the service of religion.—GIBBON.

Clerk. Formerly, a clergyman, and hence also a man of learning. Blackstone attributes the modern meaning of the word to the fact that all the inferior offices of the law-courts were held by the lower *clergy*.

The greatest *clerks* ben not the wisest men.—CHAUCER.

The Good Patron. He expects nothing of the *clerk*, he presented but his prayers to God, respectful carriage towards him, and painfulness in his calling.—FULLER.

But upon this the great *clerk* Ovid.—Id.

But the most part of true gentlemen (I meane not these farming gentlemen, nor *clarking* knights) have little or nothing increased their rents.—BURNET.

The good *clerk* writeth a fair and swift hand, and is completely versed in the four first rules of arithmetic. He riseth early that he may be first at the desk: there is his post, there he delighteth to be. His first ambition is to be a good *clerk*, his next a good Christian and a good patriot.—C. LAMB.

Cling. An old meaning was 'to dry up,' 'to wither.'

If thou speak'st false
Upon the next tree shalt thou hang alive
Till famine *cling* thee.—SHAKESPEARE, *Macbeth*, v. 5.

Can we not then trace in the faint lines of his youth an unsteady outline of the man? In the temperament of genius may

we not reasonably look for certain indications announcing the permanent character? Is not great sensibility born with irritable nerves? Will not the deep retired character *cling* to its musings?—I. DISRAELI.

Clip. To cleave the air or sea. So a ship, in nautical phraseology, is called a 'clipper.'

Had I the pinions of a *clipping* dove,
How I would climb the skies.—QUARLES.

One sees him in his retreat—between his study chair and his tulip beds, *clipping* his apricots and pruning his Essays. The statesman, the ambassador, no more—where in place of kings and fair ladies he pays his court to the Ciceronean Majesty, or walks a minuet with the epic muse, or dallies by the south wall with the ruddy nymph of gardens.—THACKERAY, on *Sir William Temple*.

Coat. Once applied to any covering for the body.

Acts of love may become arguments of a pious sadness, as the charitable *coats* that Dorcas made were to the widows.—J. TAYLOR.

Dr. Johnson. The horror which the sectaries felt for cards, Christmas ale, plum porridge, mince pies, and dancing bears, excited his contempt. To the arguments urged by some very worthy people against showy dress he replied with admirable sense and spirit, 'Let us not be found when our Master calls us, stripping the lace off our waistcoats, but the spirit of contention from our souls and tongues. Alas! Sir, a man who cannot get to heaven in a green *coat* will not find his way thither in a gray one.'—MACAULAY.

Coffin. Applied by Ben Jonson and Shakspeare to certain culinary coverings in the form of pie-crust.

Why, thou says't true, it is a paltry cap!
A custard-*coffin* and bauble, a silken pie.
I love thee well in that thou lik'st it not.

SHAKSPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, iv. 3.

The Rebel Lords. At last the Earl of Kilmarnock knelt down, and after five minutes dropped his handkerchief, the signal, and his head was cut off at once, and was received in a scarlet cloth by four of the undertaker's men kneeling, who wrapped it up and put it into the *coffin* with the body. Orders having been given not to expose the heads, the scaffold was immediately new strewn with sawdust, the block new covered, the executioner new dressed, and a new axe brought. Then came old Balmerino, treading with the air of a general.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Collation. The old meaning of a 'discourse' or 'conference' has quite disappeared.

Yet wot I, quod this Marquis softly,
That in thy chamber I, and thou, and shee
Have a *collacion*, and wost thou why?—CHAUCER.

The *collation* consisted of beef and plantain-quash folded in plantain leaves, pombe served as tea, coffee and beer for the king. In consequence of our talking together in the boat, the king became playful and familiar, catching hold of my beard. As the rolling of the boat unsteadied him, he led the band of drums, and showed himself a thorough musician.—SPEKE'S *Central Africa*

College. Applied by Dryden to a swarm of bees.

A warrior train,
That like a deluge pour'd upon the plain :
On barbed steeds they rode in proud array,
Thick as the *college* of the bees in May.—DRYDEN.

A marked distinction in dress, dinners, luxury, and in some *colleges* discipline, shows betimes the value attached to wealth and wealth only, and the younger son learns to the full extent of the lesson that he is worth so many thousands less than his elder brother. It is obvious that these distinctions, so sudden and so marked, must occasion an embarrassment and coolness in the continuance at *college* of friendships formed at school. The young are commonly both shy and proud.—LYTTON.

Colour. Rarely used now in the sense of a cloak or pretext, with the view of giving a specious outward appearance. A legal plea deficient in this quality is still said to want 'colour.'

And this malice
Under the *colour* of justice
Is hid.—GOWER.

To have an honest *colour* to begin warres with the Romans, he sent an herald before to Rome.—NORTH.

That he should die is worthy policy,
But yet we want a *colour* for his death.

SHAKSPEARE, 2 *Henry VI*, iii. 1.

The middle classes interest themselves in grave matters, the aggregate of their sentiments is called public opinion. The great interest themselves in frivolities, and the aggregate of their sentiments is called fashion. But the legislative constitutions of a people give a *colouring* even to their levities, and fashion is a shadow of the national character itself. In France, fashion was gallant under Louis XIV, and severe under the triumvirate of the Revolution; in Venice, it was mercantile; in Prussia, it is military.—LYTTON.

Combine. In Shakspeare we find 'combined' in the place of 'bound.'

I am *combined* by a sacred vow,
And shall be absent.

SHAKSPEARE, *Measure for Measure*, iv. 3.

It is impossible to deny that Walpole's works have real merit, and merit of a very rare though not a very high character. Sir Joshua Reynolds used to say that there would be another Raphael before there was another Claude, and we own that we expect to see fresh Humes and fresh Burkes before we again fall in with that peculiar *combination* of moral and intellectual qualities to which the writings of Walpole owe their extraordinary popularity.—MACAULAY.

Comedian. Once, a humorous writer.

When the writings of Addison terminate in party, he loses

himself extremely, and from a delicate and just *comedian* deviates into one of the lower kind.—Lord ORRERY.

Met Matthews the *comedian* : Byron and he lunched with us at Long's. I never saw Byron so full of fun, frolic, wit, and whim ; he was as playful as a kitten. I like better that Mathews should throw in his talent of mimicry and humour into the present current tone of the company, than that he should be required to give this, that, and t'other bit selected from his public recitations. They are good certainly—excellent, but then you *must* laugh ; and that is always severe with me. When I do laugh in sincerity, the joke must be, or seem to be unpremeditated.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Comedy. Originally, a village play.

The English Fathers caused sacred *comedies* to be acted, January 1st, 1417. The subjects were the Nativity, the arrival of the Eastern Magi, and the Massacre of the Innocents.—PERCY.

Dr. Swift had been observing to Gay what an odd, pretty sort of thing a Newgate Pastoral might make. Gay was inclined to try at such a thing, but afterwards thought it would be better to write a *comedy* on the same plan. This was what gave rise to the Beggar's Opera. As he carried it on he showed what he wrote to both of us, and we now and then gave a correction and a word or two of advice, but it was wholly of his writing.—Dr. JOHNSON.

Comfort. The present signification 'to cheer' or 'console' has grown out of an older meaning 'to strengthen' (*fortis*).

For the *comforting* of sturdy beggars.—*Statute*, Henry VIII.

The *comforter*, which is the Holy Ghost.—*Authorised Version*, *John* xiv. 26.

I am writing *comfortably* by the fire-side, for we are forced to raise an English July in a hot house, like grapes.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Commerce. Once used for general intercourse, as well as trade.

Come, but keep thy wonted state,
 With even step, and musing gait ;
 And looks *commercing* with the skies :
 Thy rapt soul sitting in thine eyes.—MILTON.

Whilst I have any ability to hold a *commerce* with you I will never be silent, and this chancing to be a day that I can hold a pen, I will drag it as long as I am able.—SWIFT to Pope.

I have often been pleased to hear disputes adjusted between an inhabitant of Japan and an Alderman of London, or to see a subject of the Great Mogul entering into a league with one of the Czar of Muscovy. I am infinitely delighted in mixing with these several ministers of *commerce*, as they are distinguished by their several walks and languages.—ADDISON.

Commission. The word occurs in Shakspeare as equivalent to 'permission.' Now only an appointment or order ; and in a secondary sense a percentage on a transaction.

I'll give him my *commission*
 To let him there a month.

SHAKSPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, i. 2.

You will have seen by the papers all the histories of our glorious expeditions and invasions of France, which have put Crecy and Agincourt out of all countenance. On the first view indeed one should think that our fleet had been to victual, for our chief prizes were cows, and geese, and turkeys ; but I rather think the whole was fitted out by the Royal Society, for they came back quite satisfied with having discovered a fine bay ! Then the expense has been enormous—two hundred thousand pounds, chiefly by employing young captains, instead of old half-pay officers, and by these means double *commissions*.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Committed. Applied by Lovelace to linnets ' confined ' in a cage.

While like *committed* linnets I
 With shriller notes shall sing.—R. LOVELACE.

Sir James Mackintosh. His mind was a vast magazine,

admirably arranged : everything was there ; and everything was in its place. His judgment on men, on sects, on books, had been often carefully tested and weighed, and had then been *committed* each to its proper receptacle in the most capacious and accurately constructed memory that any human being ever possessed.—MACAULAY.

Commodity. Profit, benefit.

Sure I am that divers grave and of the best affected of them [the congregation] have shewn their misliking of him to me, not only of his disorderliness in the manner of the communion and contempt of the prayers, but also of his negligence in reading . . . whose lectures by their report are so barren of matter that his hearers take no *commodity* thereby.—*Letter of Archbishop Whitgift to Lord Burleigh.*

By leaving capital to find its most lucrative course, *commodities* their fair price, industry and intelligence their natural reward, idleness and folly their natural punishment. Let the government do this, and the people will assuredly do the rest.—MACAULAY.

Compact. Once, put together, composed : now, condensed.

A wandering fire

Compact of unctious vapour.—MILTON.

The lunatic, the lover, and the poet
Are of imagination all *compact*.

SHAKSPEARE, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, v. 1.

Love is a spirit all *compact* of fire,
Not gross to sink, but light and will aspire.

Id., *Venus and Adonis*.

A different spinning every different web
Asks from your glowing fingers ; some require
The more *compact*, and some the looser wreath.—DYER.

Companion. Used by Shakspeare as a term of contempt—an inferior follower.

I scorn you, scurvy *companion*.—SHAKSPEARE, 2 *Henry IV*, ii. 4.

What would the wars do with these jingling fools ?

Companion, hence !—SHAKSPEARE, *Julius Cæsar*, iv. 3.

Dr. Johnson. What a singular destiny has been that of this remarkable man, to be regarded in his own times as a classic, and in ours as a *companion*. That kind of table talk, the memory of which he probably thought would die with him, is likely to be remembered as long as the English language is spoken in any quarter of the world.—MACAULAY.

Comparative. An old meaning was that of ‘a rival.’

Gerard was ever

His full *comparative*.—BEAUMONT and FLETCHER.

To laugh at gibing boys, and stand the push

Of every beardless vain *comparative*.

SHAKSPEARE, 1 *Henry IV*, iii. 2.

Hawthornthwaite in the second paper of the *Adventurer* has drawn from his own feelings an eloquent *comparative* estimate of intellectual with corporeal labour. It may console the humble mechanic. Plato seems to have been aware of this analogy, for he consecrates all working men or artizans to Vulcan and Minerva, because both those deities are hard-workers.—I. DISRAELI.

Compassionate. Once had the sense of ‘claiming compassion.’

It boots thee not to be *compassionate*,

After our sentence plaining comes too late.

SHAKSPEARE, *Richard II*, i. 3.

Luther at Wartburg. I have been, he writes, for two days employed in the sports of the field, and was willing to taste this bitter-sweet amusement of the great heroes. Even in the midst of ferrets and dogs I have had theological pains. We have caught two hares and one brace of poor little partridges ; but as much pleasure as the mere looking on afforded me, even so much it pitied me to think of the emblem and mystery which lies beneath it. For what doth this symbol signify but that the devil (and his Godless huntsmen the Bishops and theologians to wit) doth privily chase and catch the innocent poor little beasts. One poor little hare I *compassionated*, and hid in the sleeve of

my riding-coat and had stroll'd off a few yards from it, but the dogs in the mean time found her. Such likewise is the fury of the Pope (with Satan) that he destroys even the souls that have been saved.—COLERIDGE.

Complements. Formerly used for 'accomplishments,' as well as in its modern sense of filling up an entire number.

These three on men all gracious gifts bestow,
Which decke the body and adorne the minde,
To make them lovely or well-favoured showe :
As comely carriage, entertainment kind,
Sweet semblant, friendly offices that binde,
And all the *complements* of courtesie.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, Bk. vi.

A man of *complements*, whom right and wrong
Have chose as umpire of their mutiny.

SHAKSPEARE, *Love's Labour's Lost*, i. 1.

As if only younger brothers came into the world to work, the elder to *complement*. These are the tops of the houses indeed, like cock-lofts, highest and emptiest.—FULLER.

Compose. The following examples indicate a change of meaning in this word.

It is hard to *compose* two swarms of bees in one hive.—FULLER.

How in safety best we may
Compose our present evils, with regard
Of what we are and were.

MILTON, *Paradise Lost*, Bk. ii.

Minor Theatres. No Theatre Royal oppresses the imagination and entombs it in a mausoleum of massy pride; no manager's pompous pretensions choke up the lively current of our blood; no long-announced performance, big with expectation, comes to nothing, and yet compels us to record its failure and *compose* its epitaph. We have here ample scope and verge enough, we pick and choose as we will. Light where we please, and stay no longer than we have a mind, saying, 'This I like, that I loathe,' as one picks pears.—HAZLITT.

Conceit. Once identical with 'to conceive.'

I *conceit* him to be near akin to him in profaneness that set forth a Passion-sermon with a formal dedication to our Saviour.
—MILTON.

A fashion of pink-coloured hose for the ladies coming up at the juncture, we pronounced, in reference to the stockings, that, modesty taking her final leave of mortals, her last blush was visible in her ascent to the heavens by the track of the glowing instep. This might be called the crowning *conceit*, and was esteemed tolerable writing in those days.—C. LAMB.

Conclude. To include.

Who undoubtedly had been *concluded* and involved by our laws in the same sentence.—King CHARLES I.

A Scotch metaphysician has declared that Dr. Beattie had talents for a poet, but not for a philosopher. It is amusing to learn another result of his ungenial metaphysics. This sage demonstrates and *concludes* in these words: 'It will therefore be found, with little exception, that a great poet is but an ordinary genius.' Let this sturdy Scotchman never approach Pegasus: he has to fear, not his wings, but his heels.—I. DISRAELI.

Condescend. Used by Chaucer in its modern Scotch sense of 'lighting upon.' Later, to yield.

And when that he on her was *condescended*,
He thought his choice it might not be amended.

CHAUCER.

The mutual *condescensions* of all parties was towards the establishment of peace.—FULLER.

I shall tell Mr. B. nothing about war or peace. We have a fleet mighty enough to take, aye, and bring home, Peru and Mexico, and deposit them in a West India warehouse. Tho' we should come by them a little more honestly than we did by the diamonds of Bengal, I shall not be sorry if we make peace and *condescend* to leave the new world where it is.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Conjugation. No longer applied to a matrimonial union, or parental relations, as in the following example.

He enquireth the nature of a commonwealth, first in a family and the simple *conjugation* of man and wife, parent and child, master and servant, which are in every cottage.—BACON.

Too much Latin and Greek. If a young classic were to meet the greatest chemist, or the greatest mathematician, or the most profound political economist in company with the greatest Greek scholar, would the slightest comparison between them ever cross his mind? Would he ever dream that such men as Adam Smith and Lavoisier were equal in dignity to Bentley and Heyne? We are inclined to think that the feeling excited would be a good deal like that which was expressed by Dr. George Young about the praises of the great King of Prussia, who entertained considerable doubts whether the king with all his victories knew how to conjugate a Greek verb.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Conjure. } Has now lost its old meaning of
Conjuration. } a conspiracy.

I call him a good counsaylor, which (as Cæsar sayth in the *conjuration* of Catiline) whiles he consulteth in doubtful matters, is voyde of all hate, friendship, displeasure, or pitie.—Sir T. ELYOT, *The Governour*, Bk. iii.

He in proud rebellious arms
 Drew after him the third part of Heaven's sons,
Conjured against the Highest.

MILTON, *Paradise Lost*, Bk. ii.

The famous Doctor in Moorfields who gained so much reputation for his predictions is said to have had in his parlour different ropes and bells which hung in the room above stairs, when he administered his *conjurations*. The levée of a great man is laid after the same manner, and twenty whispers, false alarms, and private intimations, pass backwards and forwards from the porter, the valet, and the patron himself, before the gaping crew who are to pay their court. When the scene is ready, the doors fly open and discover his Lordship.—STEELE.

Connive. Occurs in the following instance in its literal sense of 'winking.'

And hast thou undone us
By thy *connivance*, nodding in a corner?

B. JONSON, *The Magnetic Lady*, iv. 4.

This artist is to teach them how to nod judiciously, to *connive* with either eye.—*Spectator*.

Cowardice on the Stage. We saw all the symptoms of the malady upon him—the quivering lip, the cowering knees, the teeth chattering—and could have sworn the man was frightened. But we forgot all the while that he never lost his self-possession, that he let out by a thousand droll looks and gestures meant at us that his confidence in his own resources never deserted him. Was this a genuine picture of a coward, or rather, a likeness which the clever artist contrived, while we secretly *connived* at the delusion?—C. LAMB.

Consequently. Would now be used only as a law term, in the sense in which it is employed by Fuller.

They were not immediately but indirectly and *consequently* banished the realm.—FULLER.

There is nothing we receive with so much reluctance as advice; we look upon the man who gives it us as offering an affront to our understanding, we consider the instruction as an implicit censure, and the zeal which any one shows for our good as a piece of presumption and impertinence. The truth is, that the person who advises us does in that particular exercise a superiority over us, and *consequently* comparing us with himself, he thinks us defective either in our conduct or our understanding. For these reasons there is nothing so difficult as the art of making advice agreeable.—ADDISON.

Consort. Occurs in the sense of 'concert.'

A *consort* of music in a banquet of wine is as a signet of carbuncle set in gold.—*Bible*, 1551.

I heard that stupendous violin, Sig. Nicholdo: he had a strike so sweet that he made it speak like the voice of a man, and, when he pleased, like a *consort* of several instruments.—JOHN EVELYN.

Queen Charlotte, *consort* of George III. She had no beauty, was not remarkable for talent, and had none of the charm of conversation or coquetry of manner which in exalted stations so often leads women to the perilous borders of captivation and corruption. Yet must history record the inestimable service she rendered, not only to public morals, but to the stability of the Constitution, by the unvarying correctness of her private life and the care that she took to preserve the Court from that contamination which in so many of the countries of Europe was shaking at once the throne and the altar.—ALISON.

Constantly. Firmly, fixedly ; and so, continually.

Whereby before the foundations of the earth were laid, he hath *constantly* decreed.—*Book of Common Prayer*.

Nine-tenths of us all, as regarding our time and talents, are no better than reckless spendthrift profligates. We are afraid to examine our condition, to look into it with considerate eyes. It is, notwithstanding, by subjecting ourselves *constantly* to review that we must attain to any high degree of mental discipline ; if the eye of the master be not there, order is abroad, and service runs wholly into riot.—J. TAYLOR.

Continent. Occurs in its literal sense of 'that which contains.'

Hark how the Greeks laugh, who did take
Thy fair form for a *continent* of parts as fair.—CHAPMAN.

Archimedes prayed his kinsmen that after his death they would put up a cylinder upon his tomb, containing a massy sphere, with an inscription of the proportion whereof the *continent* exceedeth the thing contained.—NORTH.

Napoleon. The narrowest strait was to his power what it was of old believed a running stream was to the sorceries of a witch. While his army entered every metropolis from Moscow to Lisbon, the English fleet blockaded every port from Dantzic to Trieste. Sicily, Sardinia, Majorca, Guernsey enjoyed security through the whole course of a war which endangered every throne on the *continent*.—MACAULAY.

Contrive. From *conterere*, to wear, to spend ; an obsolete sense.

Three ages such as mortal men *contrive*.—SPENSER.

Please ye, we may *contrive* this afternoon,
And quaff carouses to our mistress' health.

SHAKSPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, i. 2.

Convenient. Now contains a sense of ease rather than suitability.

For we think it *convenient* that every country should use such ceremonies as they shall think best to the setting forth God's honour and glory.—*Book of Common Prayer*.

Some arts are peculiarly *convenient* to particular nations.—J. HOWELL.

In the course of seven centuries this wretched and degraded race (the British) have become the greatest and most civilized people the world ever saw, have spread their dominion over every quarter of the globe, have brought every mechanical art, every manufacture, everything that promotes the *convenience* of life to a perfection that our ancestors would have thought magical.—MACAULAY.

Convent. Used by old writers as 'to bring together'; also a 'coming together.'

They sent forth their precepts to attach men and *convent* them before themselves at private houses.—BACON.

Troy doth court

Convent at Priam's gate.—CHAPMAN, *Iliad*.

Perhaps the turning-point of his [Luther's] life was that death of his friend Alexis by lightning at the gate of Erfurt. What is this life of ours—gone in a moment, burnt up like a scroll into the blank eternity? What are all earthly preferments, Chancellorships, Kingships? They lie shrunk together there. Struck to the heart, Luther determined to devote himself to God and God's service alone. In spite of all dissuasions from his father and others he became a monk in the Augustine *Convent* at Erfurt.—CARLYLE.

Conversation. Equivalent to 'society' in the following passage.

All *conversations* in the world have indulged human infirmity in this case [losing at cards.]—*Spectator*.

His [Dr. Johnson's] *conversation* seems to have been quite equal to his writings in matter, and far superior to them in manner. All his books are written in a learned language, in a language which nobody hears from his mother or his nurse, in a language in which nobody even quarrels, or drives bargains, or makes love, in a language in which nobody ever thinks.—MACAULAY.

Convert. Literally, to turn towards.

All with intente ear

Converted to th' enemies tents, if they might hear
If they were stirring.—CHAPMAN, *Iliad*.

It is very dangerous for a nation to have its public happiness depend on the virtues of single persons. Look into the histories of absolute Princes, look how many tyrants you must look through before you come to an Emperor who is supportable; but this is not all, an honest private man often grows cruel and abandoned when *converted* into an absolute Prince.—ADDISON.

Convince. Now, to prove to the satisfaction of another; but formerly, to refute.

The writings of Luther forbidden except to such as were licensed to have them, to impugn and *convince* the erroneous opinions contained in them.—Archbishop WARHAM.

He is *convinced* of all, he is judged of all.—*Authorised Version*, 1 Cor. xiv. 24.

The English are a calm reflecting people, they will give time and money when they are *convinced*; but they love names, dates and certificates. In the midst of the most heart-rending narrations Bull requires the day of the month, the year of our Lord, the name of the parish, and the countersign of two or three respectable householders. After these affecting circumstances, he can no longer hold out, but gives way to the kindness of his nature—puffs, blubbers, and subscribes.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Corse. Once both a living and a dead body.

Her semely *corse* for to embrace,
When shee hath on her hoode of greene.—LYDGATE.

With gaping mouth at her ran greedily
To have at once devoured her tender *corse*.—SPENSER.

Enter the *corse* of King Henry the Sixth, borne in an open coffin.—SHAKSPEARE, *Richard III*, i. 2.

Counsel. Often used by old writers like *consilium*, for a design or plot, as well as advice.

What man art thou, that thus bescreened in night
So stumblest on my *counsel*?
SHAKSPEARE, *Romeo and Juliet*, ii. 2.

You make me wonder?
Nay it is no *counsel*, you may partake it gentlemen.

MASSINGER.

It is impossible to doubt that Bunyan intended to satirise the mode in which state trials were conducted under Charles II. Lord Hategood performs the office of *counsel* for the prisoner as well as Scroggs himself. The licence given to the witnesses for the prosecution, the shameless partiality and ferocious insolence of the Judges, the precipitancy and blind rancour of the Jury, remind us of those odious mummeries from the Restoration to the Revolution.—MACAULAY.

Courtenace. Applied by Chaucer to the general appearance.

For to behold them dance and sing,
It seemed like none earthly thing,
Such was their uncooth *courtenace*.—CHAUCER.

Prince Eugene. I have waited for his arrival in Holland before I would let my correspondents know that I have not been so uncurious a spectator as not to have seen Prince Eugene. It would be very difficult to answer every expectation of those who have writ to me on that head, nor is it possible for me to find words to tell them what an artful glance there is in his *courtenace* who surprised Cremona, how daring

he appears who forced the trenches at Turin, but in general I can say that he who beholds him will easily expect from him anything that can be imagined or executed by the force or wit of man.—STEELE.

Counterfeit. To imitate, in a good sense.

Every Christian ought to have Christ before his eyes to *counterfeit* and follow.—TYNDALE.

The sufferings of Rousseau seem to have deserved laughter rather than pity, to have been partly *counterfeited* and partly the consequence of his own perverseness and vanity.—MACAULAY.

Counterpane. Originally, the counterpart of a deed.

Read, scribe—give me the *counterpane*.—BEN JONSON.

As I was tumbling about the Town in a hackney coach the other day, and delighting myself with the busy scenes in the shops on each side of me, it came into my head with no small remorse that I had not been frequent enough in my mention of the industrious part of mankind. In one place were exposed to view silks of various shades and colours, rich brocades, *counterpanes*, and the wealthiest products of foreign looms.—*Spectator*.

County. A nobleman.

Princes and *Counties*, surely a princely testimony!

SHAKESPEARE, *Much Ado about Nothing*, iv. 1.

We follow thee, Juliet; the *County* stays!—Id., *Romeo and Juliet*, i. 3.

The affairs of the *Counties* are entrusted to the management of the principal inhabitants. The magistrates appointed by the Crown through the medium of the Lord Lieutenant, and consisting of the principal land-owners of the County, regulate the affairs of the County by a system of self-government.—ROWLAND.

Courtship. Once applied to courtly manners.

Such charming language, such enchanting manners,

With a simplicity that shames all *courtship*.—MASSINGER.

Whilst the young lord of Telamon, her husband,
Was packeted to France to study *courtship*.—FORD.

Fuller. Very careless was he to seeming urbanity in the modes of *courtship* and demeanour, comporting himself much according to the Old English guise.—*Preface to Life of Fuller*.

I had a humble servant last summer who the first time he declared himself was in a full bottom'd wig, but the day after, to my no small surprise, he accosted me in a thin natural one. As I was walking in the Park the same evening, he appeared to me in one of those wigs that I think you call a night-cap. He afterwards played a couple of black riding wigs upon me, and in short assumed a new face almost every day in the first month of his *courtship*.—ADDISON.

Cousin. Formerly used of kinsmen generally.

Duchess of York to her grand-children.

My pretty *cousins* you mistake me much.

SHAKESPEARE, *Richard III*, ii. 2.

My noble lords and *cousins* all good morrow.—Id. iii. 4.

The estate and the person of every man who had opposed the Court of the Star Chamber were at its mercy. Hampden determined to leave England. He was accompanied by his kinsman Oliver Cromwell, over whom he possessed great influence, and in whom he alone had discovered, under an exterior appearance of coarseness and extravagance, those great and commanding talents which were afterwards the admiration and the dread of Europe. The *cousins* had taken their passage, when an order in Council appeared by which the ship was prevented from sailing.—MACAULAY.

Coy. To caress.

Pleasure is like a dog which being *coy'd* and courted follows us at the heels.—Bishop HALL.

Who shall march out before ye *coy'd* and courted

By all the mistresses of war.—BEAUMONT and FLETCHER.

Somebody has said that to swallow six cross-buns daily consecutively for a fortnight would surfeit the stoutest digestion; but to have to furnish as many jokes daily, and that not for a

fortnight but for a whole year, as we were constrained to do, was a little harder exaction. While we were wringing out *coy* sprightliness for the 'Post,' Bob. Allen, our quondam school-fellow was tapping his impracticable brains for the 'Oracle.'—C. LAMB.

Crafty. Often used by the old writers in the sense of 'powerful,' whether in mind or body: now, 'artful,' but generally in an unfavourable sense.

So thou, Jhesu, of *crafty* men the best,
 Repare my thought, broke with misgovernance.

LYDGATE.

Charles II. Dr. Andrews, bishop of Winchester, and Dr. Neale, bishop of Durham, were standing behind his Majesty's chair. My Lords, exclaimed the King, cannot I take my subjects' money when I want it without all that formality of Parliament? The Bishop of Durham readily answered, God forbid, Sir, but you should, you are the breath of our nostrils. Whereupon the King turned and said to the Bishop of Winchester, Well, my Lord, what say you? Well, Sir, I think it is lawful for you to take my brother Neale's money, for he offers it. The company was pleased with this *crafty* answer.—WALLER.

Craze. To weaken, or impair, and so to render imbecile.

I am right sicker that the pot was *crazed*.—CHAUCER.

Her *crazed* health, her late recourse to rest,

And humid evening, ill for sick folk's health.—SPENSER.

I had one day shut myself up in my chamber, and was very deeply engaged in the second book of Paradise Lost. I pronounced it aloud and fear I made no little noise, when presently coming to the following lines,

'On a sudden open fly
 With impetuous recoil and jarring sound
 Th' infernal gates,'

in a great transport I threw open the door of my chamber and found the greatest part of the family on the outside in very great consternation. After this I frequently heard the servants mention me as the *crazed* gentleman.—ADDISON.

Creature. Now only applied to men and animals, but once used more generally for the works of creation.

God's first *creature* was light.—BACON.

Sanctify, O Lord ! all these good *creatures* to our use, and us to Thy Service.—*Old form of Grace before Meat.*

Sunderland. The Chamberlain thus fiercely attacked, was very feebly defended. There was, indeed, in the House of Commons a small knot of his *creatures*, and they were not destitute of a certain kind of ability, but their moral character was as bad as his.—MACAULAY.

Crime. Used by some old authors for the cause as well as the effect of a criminal act : also, force.

Great God it planted on that blessed sted
With his almighty hand, and did it call
The tree of life, the *crime* of our first father's fall.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, i. 2.

Gather the rose of love whilst yet is time,
Whilst loving, thou may'st loved be with equal *crime*.—Id.

There are many authors who have shown wherein the malignity of a lie consists. I shall consider one particular kind of this *crime* which has not been so much spoken of, I mean the abominable practice of *party* lying. When we hear a party story from a stranger, we wonder whether he is a Whig or a Tory that relates it, and immediately conclude they are words of course in which the honest gentleman recommends his zeal, without any concern for his veracity.—STEELE.

Crisp. Curled ; applied to the twisted form of waters and clouds.

The rivers run as smoothed by his hand ;
Only their heads are *crisp*ed by his stroke.

B. JONSON.

The gilded newt and eyeless venom'd worm,
With all th' abhorred births below *crisp* heaven.

SHAKSPEARE, *Timon of Athens*, iv. 3.

You Nymphs, called Naiads, of the wand'ring brooks,
 With your sedg'd crowns and ever harmless looks,
 Leave your *crisp* channels, and on this green land
 Answer your summons ; Juno doth command.

SHAKSPEARE, *Tempest*, iv. 1.

There is no flavour comparable to that of the *crisp*, tawny, well-watch'd, not-over-roasted crackling as it is call'd. The very teeth are invited to their share of this banquet in overcoming the coy, brittle resistance with the adhesive oleaginous—O, call it not fat—but an undefinable sweetness growing up to it, the tender blossoming of fat—fat cropped in the bud—taken in the shoot—in the first innocence, the cream and quint-essence of the child-pig's yet pure food.—C. LAMB.

Cunning. Like 'craft,' and other words implying skill, 'cunning' has gradually fallen from a good sense to a bad.

And how my rhymes ben rugged and unkempt,
 Yet, as I can, my *cunning* I will strain.—SPENSER.

Cunning in music and the mathematics.

SHAKSPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, ii. 1.

Discretion is the perfection of reason and a guide to us in all the duties of life; *cunning* is a kind of instinct that only looks out after its own immediate interest and welfare. Discretion is only found in men of strong sense and good understanding; *cunning* is often to be met with in the brutes themselves and in the persons who are the fewest removes from them.—ADDISON.

Cure. In old authors often equivalent to 'care.' So 'curious' is 'heedful.'

Of study took he most *cure* and heed.—CHAUCER.

And for to hunt and hawk on every side
 Well nigh all other *cures* let he slide.—Id.

With few exceptions, so few indeed that they need not be taken into a practical estimate, any person may learn any thing upon which he sets his heart. To ensure success he has simply so to discipline his mind as to check its vagaries, to *cure* it of its

constant proneness to be doing two or three things at a time, and to compel it to direct its combined energies upon a single object. This I consider one of the most difficult, but one of the most useful lessons of life.—Dr. GREGORY.

Curiosity. Scrupulousness, taste, excessive niceness in food, dress, or other things.

Methinks her mother,
As if she could renew her youth in care,
Nay, *curiosity* to appear lovely,
Comes not behind her daughter.—MASSINGER.

When thou wast in thy gilt and thy perfume,
They mocked thee for too much *curiosity*.

SHAKESPEARE, *Timon of Athens*, iv. 3.

A waiting gentlewoman should flee affection [i. e. affectation] or *curiosity*.—HOBBY'S *Castilio*.

Pharicles hath shewn me some curtesy, and I have not altogether requited him with *curiosity*.—GREENE'S *Mamilia*.

I dined at Mr. Palmer's in Gray's Inn, whose *curiosity* excelled in clocks and pendules.—J. EVELYN.

And for the dressing of meat the sons of Eli were noted of indiscreet *curiosity*.—J. TAYLOR.

Mr. Fox very often used to say 'I wonder what Lord B. would say to this.' Lord B. happened to be a very stupid person, and the *curiosity* of Mr. Fox's friends was naturally excited to know why he attached such importance to the opinion of such an ordinary common-place person. His opinion, said Mr. Fox, is of much more importance than you are aware; he is an exact representation of all common-place English prejudices, and what Lord B. thinks of such a measure, the great majority of English people will think of it. It would be a good thing if every cabinet of philosophers had a Lord B. among them. I am astonished that Ministers neglect the common precaution of a foolometer.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Curious. Used in the senses of '*curiosity*.'

And therefore in these both *curious* and unhappy differences which have for so many hundred years in different times and

places exercised the Church of Christ, we will that all further *curious* search be laid aside.—HENRY VIII.

Me shall you find ready and willing
With one consent to have her so bestowed :
For *curious* I cannot be with you
Signor Baptista, of whom I hear so well.

SHAKSPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, iv. 4.

I have heard his Lordship discourse that men no doubt will think many of the experiments contained in this collection to be vulgar and trivial, mean and sordid, *curious* and fruitless.—BACON, *Preface to Sylva Sylvarum*.

The emperor, obeying more compassion than the reason of things, was not *curious* to condescend to perform so good an office.—HOLINSHED.

He is very *curious* that nothing should be used by Christians which is used on, or by, or towards idols.—J. TAYLOR.

It is lawful in all senses to comply with a nice stomach, but not with a nice and *curious* palate.—Id.

It would be a *curious* subject for investigation to observe how those resolves are adopted which have great influence upon the lives of men. A Statesman of our time once remarked that he had not been so much influenced by the things that were meant to influence him, such as wise sayings in books, or by any thing that had been directly addressed to him, as he had by chance remarks which he found singularly applicable to himself.—Sir A. HELPS.

Curst. Once, ill-tempered.

Touch you the sourest points with sweetest terms,
Nor *curstness* grow to the matter.

SHAKSPEARE, *Antony and Cleopatra*, ii. 2.

Will undertake to woo *curst* Katharine.

Id., *Taming of the Shrew*, i. 2.

Opinion of the world. Thus is the world governed for the most part. It is not the absolute fact, the substance of our grief, but the mere reflection of a shadow, our opinion of the opinion of others as to our condition that makes us miserable. This is a common *curse*, but it will be found to be a very silly

one for men of the world; people of use and service are too full of themselves, too much occupied with their own projects to concern themselves about the foibles of a neighbour.—J. TAYLOR.

Customer. Custom-House Officer.

That your Grace will deliver Master Gowstewyck my bill (letter) for the Privy Seal for Sir John Cutte. I must needs pay much money to the *customers* for custom except I have it.—*Letter from R. Gresham to Cardinal Wolsey.*

I had in the usual forms when I came to the fair put my horse through all his paces, but for some time had no bidders. At last a chapman approached and after he had examined the horse, finding him blind of one eye, he would have nothing to say to him. A second came up, but observing he had a spavin declared that he would not take him for the driving home. A third perceived that he had a windgall and would not have him. By this time I began to have myself a hearty contempt for the poor animal, and was almost ashamed at the approach of every *customer*, for tho' I did not believe all the fellows told me, yet I reflected that the number of witnesses was a strong presumption that they were right.—GOLDSMITH.

D.

Dainty. Chaucer uses the substantive in the sense of 'a fine thing.' The adjective is now generally applied to taste or nicety in regard to eatables.

For truly I hold it a great *daintie*,
A king's sonne in armes wel to do.

CHAUCER, *Troilus*, Bk. ii.

Why should you be so cruel to yourself,
And to those *dainty* limbs which nature lent
For gentle usage and soft delicacy?—MILTON, *Comus*.

Your *dainty* speakers have the curse,
 To plead bad causes down to worse ;
 As dames, who native beauty want,
 Still uglier look, the more they paint.

PRIOR, *Alma*, ch. 2.

Haunch of Venison. Turn the broad end of the haunch towards you ; put in the knife, and cut as deep as you can to the end of the haunch. Then help in thin slices, observing to give some fat to each person. There is more fat (which is a favourite part) on the left side than on the other, and those who help must take care to proportion this *dainty* (as likewise the gravy) according to the number of the company.—MRS. RUNDELL.

Damnified. Injured ; formerly of things as well as persons.

Now they would not gather their tythes when the owners of the corn desired them, but when it pleased themselves, by which means the owners were many times *damnified* to the loss of their whole stock.—*Protestations, Charles I.*

Two inlaid tables *damnified*.—*Catalogue of things broken by the Czar Peter.*

Damp. The adjective has now lost its old meaning of ‘depressed.’

All these and more came flocking, but with look
 Downcast and *damp*, yet such wherein appeared,
 Obscure, some glimpse of joy.—MILTON, *Paradise Lost*.

Match-making. It lowers the chivalric estimate of women, and *damps* with eternal suspicion the youthful tendency to lofty and honest love. The ambition of women absorbed in these petty intrigues, and debased to this paltry level, possesses little sympathy with great objects of masculine and noble intellect. They have in general frigid conception of public virtue, they affect not to understand politics, and measure a man’s genius by his success in getting on.—LYTTON.

Danger. Once used for the feudal right or jurisdiction of the lord over his vassal.

Holdeth your servants under obeysance :
 Let 'em neither freedom nor franchise,
 But under *danger* do their observance.—LYDGATE.

Of a strange nature is the suit you follow,
 Yet in such rule as the Venetian law
 Cannot impugn you as you do proceed :
 You stand within his *danger*, do you not ?
Antonio. Ay, so he says.

SHAKSPEARE, *Merchant of Venice*, iv. 1.

I know there is no music in your ears
 So pleasing as the groans of men in prison,
 And that the tears of widows and the cries
 Of famished orphans are the feasts that take you,
 That to be in your *danger* with more care
 Should be avoided than infectious air.—MASSINGER.

Sermons are so seldom examined with any degree of critical vigilance that we are apt to discover in them sometimes a great laxity of assertion. Thus Dr. Kennel on 'The Clergy': 'Labours to be undergone, afflictions to be borne, contradictions to be endured, *danger* to be braved, are the perpetual badges of by far the greater part.' This passage struck us at first to be untrue till it occurred to us that the Doctor must undoubtedly mean the eight hundred and fifty actions which in the course of eighteen months have been brought against the clergy for non-residence.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Dangerous. Difficult to please.

I will you tell a little thing in prose,
 That ought you like, as I suppose,
 Or else, certes, you be too *dangerous*.—CHAUCER.

In the time of Lord George Gordon's riots, the Guards said they did not care for the mob, if the Gentlemen Volunteers behind would be so good as not to hold their muskets in such a *dangerous* manner. I don't care for popular clamour, but I confess the Gentlemen Volunteers alarm me. They have, unfortunately too, collected their addresses and published them in a single volume.—SYDNEY SMITH, *Letters on Church Property*.

Dare. Formerly, to lurk : also, to scare.

The snayl goeth low down,
Dayreth in his shell, yet may he see no light.—LYDGATE.
 The Cormorant wait *daryn* in the Lake.—Id.
 Enclosed the bush about and there him took,
 Like *darred* Lark, not daring up to look.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, vii. 7.

If we live thus tamely,
 To be thus jaded by a piece of scarlet,
 Farewell nobility. Let his Grace go forward,
 And *dare* us with his cap, like larks.

SHAKSPEARE, *Henry VIII*, iii. 2.

A cast of falcons on their merry wings
Daring the stooped prey that shifting flies.

CHAPMAN, *Gentleman Usher*.

But there is another in the wind, some kestrel
 That hovers over her, and *dares* her daily.

BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Pilgrim*.

Since our persons are not of our own making, when they appear defected or uncomely, it is, methinks, an honest and laudable fortitude to *dare* to be ugly, at least, to keep ourselves from being abashed with a consciousness of imperfections which we cannot help, and in which there is no guilt. I would not defend a haggard *beau* for passing away much time at a glass, and giving softness and languishing graces to deformity. All I intend is, that we ought to be contented with our countenance and shape so far as never to give ourselves an uneasy reflection on that subject.—ADDISON.

Dash. The old meanings, to trouble, reject, &c., have been lost.

If Christ was *dashed*, shall Christians escape clean in their journey to Heaven?—FULLER.

My Lord of Southampton moved the King, by petition, to pull down his house in Holborn, and build it into tenements. His Majesty brought his petition to the Council-table, and recommended it, but upon debate, it was *dashed*.—WIMBLEDON.

The *dashing* fellow, as great genius usually shows strong indications of it at the earliest age, begins his career of glory at the public school. . . . He must fight a duel, before his claim to complete heroism, or *dashism*, can be universally allowed.—KNOX, *Winter Evenings*.

Deal. A part, a share.

Then shall he that offereth his offering unto the Lord bring a meat offering of a tenth *deal* of flour, mingled with the fourth part of an hin of oil.—*Authorised Version, Numbers xv. 4.*

But now to please the Fairy King,
Full every *deal*, they laugh and sing
And antic feats devise.—PARNELL.

Over-particularity in trifles causes a great *deal* of social discomfort and restraint. People are, for the most part, very good-natured in these matters, but they do not, on that account, love him or her the more. In every person, to be thoroughly popular and liveable-with, there should be a little touch of untidiness and unpreciseness, and indifference to small things.—SIR ARTHUR HELPS.

Dear. Used by Shakspeare in the sense of 'dread.'

The sly slow hours shall not determinate
The dateless limit of thy *dear* exile :
The hopeless word of never to return
Breathe I against thee, upon pain of life.

SHAKSPEARE, *Richard II*, i. 3.

Our hope in him is dead : let us return
And strain what other means is left unto us
In our *dear* peril.—Id. *Timon of Athens*, v. 2.

Complaint of Wealth. You are too proud to see a play anywhere now but in the pit. Do you remember where we used to sit when we squeezed out our shilling a piece for the one shilling gallery, where we felt all the time that you ought not to have brought me? And the pleasure was the better for a little shame. And when the curtain drew up, what cared we for our place in the house, when our thoughts were with Rosalind in Arden, or

with Viola at the Coast of Illyria? There was pleasure in eating strawberries then, and the first dish of peas while they were yet *dear*, to have them for a treat. What treat can we have now?—C. LAMB.

Debate. Angry contention. Queen Elizabeth described Mary Stuart as a 'daughter of debate and strife.'

Gan highly to commend that happy life,
Which shepherds lead, without *debate* or strife.

SPENSER.

God save the King, and bless the land
In plenty, joy, and peace ;
And grant henceforth, that foul *debate*
'Twixt noblemen may cease.—*Chevy Chase*.

It is singular, that in the art of *debate*, Pitt, a man of splendid talents, of great fluency, and great boldness, should never have attained to high excellence. He did not succeed either in refutation or in exposition, but his speeches abounded with lively illustrations, striking apothegms, well-told anecdotes, happy allusions, passionate appeals. His invective and sarcasm were tremendous. Perhaps no English orator was ever more feared.—MACAULAY.

Debonaire. Once, gracious, mild, gentle: now, good-natured, light-hearted.

Glorious Virgine, of alle flouris floure,
To thee I flee, confounded in errour.
Help and relieve, almighty *Debonaire*.

CHAUCER, *Hymn to the Virgin*.

When Dame Prudence ful *debonerely* and with great patience, had heard all that her husband liked for to speke.—GOWER.

For the winds of the south
Ben most of them *debonaire*.—Id.

Trajan, the worthy *debonaire*
By whom that Rome stood govern'd.—Id.

O Gracious Jhesu ! benign and *debonaire*
Have mercy upon all who bend to thee their knee.

LYDGATE.

I have no poulterer's nose ; but your apparel sits about you most *debonairely*.—FORD, *Love's Sacrifice*, ii. 1.

The Queen (Anne Boleyn) remembering how her predecessor lost the king's love with her over-austerity, turned herself to a more open and *debonaire* behaviour.—FULLER.

The Frenchman, easy, *debonaire* and brisk,
Pleased with his lass, his fiddle and his frisk,
Is always happy, reign whoever may,
And laughs the sense of misery away.—COWPER.

Deck. Used by some old writers for a pack of cards.

But whiles he thought to steal the single ten,
The King was slily finger'd from the *deck*.

SHAKSPEARE, 3 *Henry VI*, v. 1.

Well, if I chance but once to get the *deck*
To deal about and shuffle as I would.

Solimus, Emperor of the Turks, 1638.

Glorious days, when Queen Elizabeth was on the throne,
Burleigh on the Council, Raleigh on the *Deck*, Bacon on the
Woolsack, and Shakspeare on the Stage.—FROUDE.

Declare. This word has lost the sense of 'distinguishing,' in which it occurs in the following passage.

And thus in povertie is indeed
Truth *declared* from falsehood.—CHAUCER.

We ought gratefully to remember that we possess a noble sample of so much of the complex being of great men as is capable of an earthly permanence, for intellect alone can put on a semblance of earthly immortality. Neither poets, nor painters, nor even historians can erect living monuments to any but themselves. The exactest copy of the fairest face becomes in a few years a mere ideal only commendable as it *declares* universal beauty.—H. COLERIDGE.

Decline. No longer used in the sense of 'averting.'

Since injustice
In your Duke meets this correction, can you press us
In foolish pity to *decline* his dangers,
To draw them on ourselves?—MASSINGER.

Supreme Pontiffs. That line we trace back in an unbroken series from the Pope who crowned Napoleon in the nineteenth century to the Pope who crowned Pepin in the eighth; and far beyond the time of Pepin the august dynasty extends till it is lost in the twilight of fable. The republic of Venice came next in antiquity, but the republic of Venice was modern compared with the Papacy, and the republic of Venice is gone, and the Papacy remains, not in *decline*, not a mere antique, but full of life and youthful vigour. The Catholic Church is still sending forth to the furthest ends of the world missionaries as zealous as those who landed in Kent with Augustin.—MACAULAY.

Decorum. Custom, etiquette.

I divided the whole History into two Comedies, for that *decorum* used that it could not be contained in one.—WHITSTONE.

Dr. Young as a Christian and Divine has been reckoned an example of primeval piety. The following incident does honour to his feelings. When preaching in his turn at St. James', finding that he could not gain the attention of his audience his pity for their folly got the better of all *decorum*: he sat back in the pulpit and burst into a flood of tears.—*Life of Dr. Young.*

Deduct. No longer used as 'to reduce.'

'Tis but so many months, so many weeks, so many—do not *deduct* it to days; 'twill be the more tedious, and to measure by hour glasses were intolerable.—MASSINGER.

This uncertainty is most frequent in the vowels, which are so capriciously pronounced, and so differently modified by accident or affectation, not only in every province, but in every mouth, that to them, as is well known to etymologists, little regard is to be shown in the *deduction* of one language from another.—JOHNSON, *Preface to English Dictionary.*

A famous critic, says Boccacini, having gathered together all the faults of an eminent poet made a present of them to Apollo, who received them very graciously and resolved to make the author a suitable return for the trouble he had been at in collecting them. In order to this he set before him a sack of wheat as it had been just threshed out of the sheaf. He then bid him pick the chaff out of the corn and lay it aside by itself. The critic applied himself to the task with great industry and pleasure, and having made the separation Apollo *deducted* the corn and made the critic a present of the chaff for his pains.—*Spectator*.

Defend. Formerly, like the French *défendre*, to prohibit.

When can you say in any manner age,
That ever God *defended* marriage.—CHAUCER.

Prudence answered : certes wel I wote, attempre weeping is nothing *defended* to him that sorrowful is, among folke in sorwe, but is rather granted him to wepe.—Id., *Tale of Melibeus*.

To know both good and evil since the taste
Of that *defended* fruit.—MILTON, *Paradise Lost*.

Defence, in its true legal sense, signifies not a justification, protection, or guard, which is now its popular signification, but merely an opposing or denial (from the French verb, *defender*) of the truth or validity of the complaint.—BLACKSTONE, *Commentaries*, Bk. iii. c. 20.

As nothing is more laudable than an enquiry after truth, so nothing is less to be *defended* than to pass away our whole lives without determining ourselves one way or other on those points which are of the last importance to us. The first rule therefore which I shall lay down is this, that when by reading or discourse we find ourselves thoroughly convinced of the truth of any article, and of the reasonableness of our belief in it, we should never suffer ourselves after to call it in question.—ADDISON.

Defy. Originally to renounce faith or allegiance, to reject ; and thence to challenge.

Not for the world : since I have lost my sons,
 All outward joys are from my heart removed :
 Vain pleasures I abhor, all things I *defy*,
 That teach not to despair, or how to die.

HEYWOOD, *The Four Prentices of London*.

Par. I do *defy* thy commiseration,
 And apprehend thee for a felon here.

SHAKESPEARE, *Romeo and Juliet*, v. 3.

An armoury to which we can at all times resort to find weapons with which to *defy* the evils and the griefs of life.—WASHINGTON IRVING, *on Scott's Novels*.

Delay. Used by some old writers as to allay, or alleviate, like the French *délayer*.

As for the leafe of the herb (amethyst), it hath no fresh and lively hew, but resembleth a wineless, weak wine, as one may say, as one that drinketh flat, or else is much *delayed* with water.—HOLLAND, *Plutarch*.

These are they who keep no appointments, who are seldom true to their hour, who make their friends wait for them on all occasions, who often create uneasiness to all the company, and put a whole family out of order. What an unbecoming behaviour is this ! What an ill aspect it bears ! Especially if these *delayers* are in any degree inferior, or the younger parts of a house.—WATTS.

Deliciousness. No longer used in the bad sense of luxury, effeminacy.

He thought with himself to banish out of the city all insolency, envy, covetousness and *deliciousness*.—NORTH.

In one of the state beds at Arundel Castle under a Ducal canopy, at noonday, fast asleep, was discovered a lost chimney-sweep. The little creature having somehow confounded his passage among the intricacies of the lordly chimnies had alighted upon this magnificent chamber, and tired with his tedious explorations was unable to resist the *delicious* invitation to sleep which he saw there exhibited. So creeping between the sheets,

he very quietly laid his black head upon the pillow and slept like a young Howard.—C. LAMB.

Delight. Used by Shakspeare as to refine, lighten.

And, noble Signor,
If virtue no *delighted* beauty lack,
Your son-in-law is far more fair than black.

SHAKSPEARE, *Othello*, i. 3.

Aye, but to die, and go we know not where;
To lie in cold obstruction, and to rot;
This sensible warm motion to become
A kneaded clod; and the *delighted* spirit
To bathe in fiery floods, or to reside
In thrilling regions of thick-ribbed ice.

Id., *Measure for Measure*, iii. 1.

The only effect which the Reformation produced in Spain was to make the Inquisition more vigilant and the commonalty more bigoted. One people alone remained like the fleece of the Hebrew warrior, dry in the midst of that fertilising dew, that time of refreshing to all neighbouring nations. Among the men of the seventeenth century the Spaniard was the man of the fifteenth, *delighted* to behold an *auto-da-fè*, and ready to volunteer on a Crusade.—MACAULAY.

Demean. Old meaning, to manage, behave: now, to debase, disgrace.

Lo, is it not a great mischance
To let a fool have governance
Of things that he cannot *demene*?—CHAUCER.

The King smiled and examined my firearms, the first ever seen, and we proceeded for sport. Some adjutant birds and vultures were resting on a tree; the King commanded me to fire on them, but I could not *demean* myself by firing at birds sitting on a tree. I begged him to take a shot himself, but all would not do, so I killed an adjutant on the nest. They were spell-bound with astonishment. The King jumped frantically in the air, crying What wonders!—SPEKE, *Central Africa*.

Demerit. Once synonymous with merit.

My *demerits*
May speak unbonnetted to as proud a fortune
As this that I have reached.

SHAKSPEARE, *Othello*, i. 2.

We have heard so much of your *demerits*,
That 'twere injustice not to cherish you.

SHIRLEY, *Humorous Courtier*.

I am informed there have been brought against me charges of plagiarism. One of them is ludicrous enough; I am reproached for having formed the description of a shipwreck in verse from the narratives of many actual shipwrecks in prose, selecting such materials as were most striking. Gibbon makes a merit in Tasso 'to have copied the minutest details of the Siege of Jerusalem from the Chronicles.' In *me* it may be a *demerit*, I presume—let it remain so.—BYRON.

Demure. Used by the older writers in a good sense of pensive, modest, solemn; but now with a suspicion of affectation.

Lo two most goodly virgins came in place,
Ynlynked arme in arme in lovely wise,
With countenance *demure*, and modest grace,
They numbered even steps, and equal pase.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, i. 10.

Hark, the drums
Demurely wake the sleepers.

SHAKSPEARE, *Antony and Cleopatra*, iv. 9.

Come pensive nun, devout and pure
Sober, stedfast and *demure*.—MILTON.

'Twas on a lofty vase's side,
Where China's gayest art had dyed
The azure flowers that blow;
Demurest of the tabby kind,
The pensive Selima reclin'd,
Gaz'd on the lake below.

GRAY, *On a Cat watching a Bowl of Gold Fish*.

Charles was sick, nervous, and extravagantly superstitious. Carrero had learned in the exercise of his profession the art of exciting and soothing such minds, and he employed such art with the calm and *demure* cruelty which is characteristic of wicked and ambitious Priests.—MACAULAY.

Depart. Old meaning, to divide, separate.

For the superficialte of the earth is *departed* in seven parties.
—MANDEVILLE.

Till death do us *depart*.—*Book of Common Prayer*, 1661.

I remember in particular his showing us on a distant eminence, a dreary, lone house called the Hawk's Nest, in which a young man returning from a fair with money had been murdered in the night and buried under the floor, where his remains were found after the death or *departure* of the inmates. The fact was simple enough, but related in his manner, it was just such a story as should have been told by a poet on a lonely heath.—LOCKHART, *Life of Sir W. Scott*.

Depend. Used formerly in its literal sense of to hang, or rest in a hanging position.

As heaven with stars, the roof with jewels glows,
And ever living lamps *depend* in rows.

POPE, *Temple of Fame*.

Her andirons
(I had forgot them) were two winking cupids
Of silver, each on one foot standing, nicely
Depending on their brands.

SHAKSPEARE, *Cymbeline*, ii. 4.

The warlike power of every country *depends* on their three per cents. If Cæsar were to reappear upon earth his Commentaries would give place to Wetherall's List. Rothschild would open and shut the Temple of Janus, Thomas Baring, or Bates, would probably command the Tenth Legion, and the soldiers would march to battle with loud cries of Scrip and Omnium reduced, Consols and Cæsar.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Derive. Literally, to draw away a river from its proper channel, and so of other things. Now generally, to draw from.

Thus to *derive* the crown to her husband as the next heir in the line of Lancaster.—FULLER.

The following great men did not *derive* their education from public schools. Sir Isaac Newton, Wallis, Flamsteed, Saunderson, Simpson, and Napier, among men of science, were not educated at public schools. The three best historians that the English language has produced, Clarendon, Hume and Robertson, were not educated at public schools. Spenser, Pope, Shakspeare, Butler, Rochester, Spratt, Parnell, Garth, Congreve, Guy, Swift, Thomson, Shenstone, Akenside, Goldsmith, Samuel Johnson, Beaumont and Fletcher, Ben Jonson, Sir Philip Sidney, Savage, Arbuthnot and Burns among the poets were not educated in the system of English Schools.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Desire. Like *desiderium* once had the additional meaning of regret for a loss, but is now only applied to an object hoped for and unattained.

She that hath a wise husband must entice him to an eternal dearness by the veil of modesty and the grave robes of chastity, and she shall be pleasant while she lives, and *desired* when she dies.—JEREMY TAYLOR.

When the struggle for existence has been successfully terminated, and the mere instinct of self-preservation no longer absorbs the activities of a people, then the three chief motive forces of civilization begin to operate. These are cupidity, or the *desire* of wealth and all that it procures; curiosity, or the *desire* to discover new facts about the world and man; and the love of beauty, which is the parent of all art.—J. A. SYMONDS, *Renaissance in Italy*, p. 183.

Desolate. Used by Chaucer as 'destitute.'

O Goliath, unmeasurable of length,
How could David make thee so mate,
So young, and of armour so *desolate*.—CHAUCER.

Reader, in thy passage from the Bank northwards didst thou never observe a melancholy-looking, brick-and-stone edifice, where Threadneedle Street abuts upon Bishopsgate? I dare say thou hast often admired its magnificent proportions, its portals ever gaping wide and disclosing to view a grave court with cloisters, with few or no traces of goers in or comers out, a *desolation* like Balchetha's. This was once a house of trade, a centre of busy interests; the throng of merchants was here, the quick pulse of gain. There are still to be seen stately apartments, deserted, or thinly peopled by a few straggling clerks. Such is the South Sea House, a magnificent relic!—C. LAMB.

Detest. Sometimes occurs among old writers in the meaning of 'bearing witness against' (*detestari*).

E'en to vice

They are not constant, but are changing still

One vice but of a minute old for one

Not half so old as that: I'll write against them,

Detest them, curse them.—SHAKESPEARE, *Cymbeline*, ii. 5.

Which is nothing else but to rob men, and make God the receiver, who is the *detester*, and will be the punisher of such crimes.—HOPKINS, *On the First Commandment*.

Genius, when employed in works whose tendency it is to demoralise and degrade us, should be contemplated with abhorrence rather than with admiration. Such a monument of its power may indeed be stamped with immortality, but, like the Colosseum at Rome, we deplore its magnificence, because we *detest* the purposes for which it was designed.—COLTON'S *Lacon*.

Detraction. Used by Bacon in its literal meaning of 'taking away.'

You shall therefore enquire of the unlawful taking of partridges and pheasants, or fowl, the *detraction* of the eggs of the said wild fowl.—BACON.

Treat a *detractor* with contempt, and so you shall force spite to drink off his own poison.—ZIMMERMAN.

Devoid. The verb, meaning 'to turn or clear away,' is now obsolete.

Who shall *devoid* this great heaviness
Fro me, woful Mary, woful Magdalene.—CHAUCER.

The modest man. The air, the season, or a sun-shine day, are instances of happiness to him; he is *devoid* of emulation, he is no man's rival but every man's well-wisher, he can look at a prosperous man with pleasure, in hoping that he is as happy as himself, and has his mind and his fortune open to the unhappy and the stranger.—STEELE.

Diffidence. Once, distrust of others: now, only of oneself.

No man almost thought himself secure, and men durst scarce commune or talk with one another, but there was a general *diffidence* everywhere.—BACON.

You have brought scandal
To Israel, *diffidence* of God and doubt
In feeble hearts, propense enough before.—MILTON.

He had brought the Parliament into so great *diffidence* of him as that they durst not leave the public arms to his disposal, much less an army to his conduct.—MILTON.

A generation must pass away before it will be possible to form a fair judgment of his [Byron's] books, considered merely as books. At present they are not only books but relics. We will, however, though with unfeigned *diffidence*, offer some desultory remarks on his poetry.—MACAULAY.

Disappoint. To cancel an appointment or countermand an order.

I retired my servants from Chartley, I discharged my carpenters and masons for one week, I *disappointed* as many carriages as I could upon so short warning.—Sir AMIAS PAULETT (1560).

Unhousel'd, *disappointed*, unaneled!
SHAKSPEARE, *Hamlet*, i. 5.

David. Tell us in the annals of men of one so *disappointed*, so bereaved and straitened, maintaining not fortitude alone, but sweet composure and a heavenly frame of soul, inditing praises to the God of mercy and songs which soar into the third heaven of the soul : not indeed without the burst of sorrow, and complaint of solitariness, and prophetic warning to his bloodthirsty foes, but ever closing in sweet preludes of good to come, and desire of present contentment. Find us among the Themistocles, and Coriolani, and Cromwells, and Napoleons of the earth such a man, and we will yield the argument which we maintain for the peerless son of Jesse.—EDWARD IRVING.

Discharge. This word presents in some instances a lost meaning.

And deeming better if he could *discharge*
The day in safety, and some peace conclude.

DANIEL, *Civil Wars*, Bk. iv.

It is done by little and little and with many essays, but all this *dischargeth* not the wonder.—BACON.

Society for the Suppression of Vice. To compel men to go to church under a penalty appears to us to be absolutely absurd. The bitterest enemy of religion will necessarily be that person who is driven to a compliance with its outward ceremonies by informers and justices of the peace. In the same manner any constable who hears any one swear an oath has a right to seize him and carry him before a magistrate, when he is to be fined so much for every execration. The common sense and common feeling of mankind would *discharge* themselves of such laws. It is impossible to carry them into execution.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Discolour. To stain with various colours.

Like a *discoloured* snake, whose hidden snares
Thro' the green grass his long bright burnished back declares.
SPENSER.

Or Iris bright
When her *discoloured* bow she spreads thro' Heaven's height.
Id.

South Sea House. The moths that were then battenning on its

discoloured ledgers and day-books, have rested from their depredations, layers of dust have accumulated upon the old layers that seldom used to be disturbed but by some curious finger now and then inquisitive to explore the mode of book-keeping in Queen Anne's reign, huge charts which subsequent discoveries have antiquated, dusty maps of Mexico, dim as dreams, and soundings of the Bay of Panama—the long passages hung with buckets appended in idle row to walls whose substance might defy any burning short of the last conflagration.—C. LAMB.

Discourse. Occurs in some old writers as equivalent to 'course.'

At last let us come to show the tragical *discourse* of the young infant.—R. GREENE.

At last the captive after long *discourse*,
When all his strokes he saw avoided quite,
Resolved in one 't' assemble all his force,
And make one end of him without ruth or remorse.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*.

Sir Roger de Coverley on a Lady. She is beautiful beyond the race of women. When I came to her house I was admitted to her presence with great civility, at the same time she placed herself to be first seen by me in such an attitude, as I think you call the posture of a picture, that she discovered new charms, and I at last came towards her with such an awe as made me speechless. This she no sooner observed than she made her advantage of it, and began a *discourse* to me concerning love and honour, as they both are followed by pretenders, and the real votaries to them.—ADDISON.

Discrimination. Used by Fuller and others as 'separation' (*discrimen*).

Nothing then appeared of *discrimination*: intercourse was free between King and Parliament.—FULLER.

On man and manners Johnson certainly looked with a most observant and *discriminating* eye. In his writings indeed the knowledge of life which he possessed in an eminent degree is

very imperfectly exhibited, like those unfortunate chiefs of the middle ages who were suffocated in their own chain-mail and cloth of gold, his maxims perish under that load of words which were designed for their ornament and defence.—MACAULAY.

Discuss. Formerly used literally as ‘to shake off, or away.’

That all regard of fame she had *discussed*
And meet respect of honour put to flight,
So shameless beauty soon becomes a loathly sight.

SPENSER.

There is not, and there never was on this earth a work of human policy so well deserving of examination and *discussion* as the Roman Catholic Church. The history of that Church joins together two great ages of human civilization. No other institution is left standing which carries the mind back to the times when the smoke of sacrifice rose from the Pantheon, and when camelopards and tigers bounded in the Flavian Amphitheatre. The proudest royal houses are but as yesterday, when compared with the line of the Supreme Pontiffs.—MACAULAY.

Disease. Once discomfort, trouble generally; but now confined to actual maladies.

With all thy good, which I have seized,
And that I wot thou art *diseased*,
I am right glad.—GOWER.

First, lean thine aged back against mine arm,
And in that ease, I'll tell thee my *disease*.

SHAKSPEARE, 1 *Henry VI*, ii. 5.

His [Dr. Johnson's] incredulity, says Mrs. Thrale, amounted almost to *disease*. A man who told him of a water-spout, or a meteoric stone, generally had the lie direct given him for his pains.—MACAULAY.

Dispense. Expense.

And that not without delay and *dispense* of time.—LAM-BARD'S *Commentaries*.

Education. The object is to give children resources which will endure as long as human life endures, habits that time will ameliorate, not destroy, occupations which will render sickness tolerable, solitude pleasant, age venerable, life more dignified and useful, and therefore death less terrible. There is nothing, after all, so social as a cultivated mind : a mind full of ideas, and with that elastic spring, which the love of knowledge can only convey, is a perpetual source of exhilaration and amusement to all who come within its reach, *dispensing* over the whole existence a calm pleasure, better loved as it is longer felt, and suitable to every variety and every period of life.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Dispirit. To distil.

Proportion an hour's meditation to an hour's reading of a staple author. This makes a man master of his learning, and *dispirits* the book into the scholar.—FULLER.

Among the real inhabitants of the country the reputation of reading and thinking is fatal to character. Very few men who are gratifying their vanity in a great metropolis are qualified to quit it : few have the plain sense to perceive that they must soon inevitably be forgotten, or the fortitude to bear it if they are. They represent to themselves imaginary scenes of deploring friends and *dispirited* companions.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Dispute. To debate.

You will friendly and lovingly *dispute* among yourselves the controversies moved in the Church, and you will conclude all things by the word of God without brawling or scolding.—HENRY VIII *to the Bishops*.

Madame d'Epinay admired the genius of Rousseau, and was so far deluded by his declamations about the country as to fit him up a little hermit cottage where there were a great many birds and a great many plants and flowers, and where Rousseau was, as might have been expected, supremely miserable. The postman, the butcher, and the baker, hate romantic scenery. Duchesses and marchionesses were no longer found to *dispute* for him, and Jean Jacques cursed his own successful eloquence which had sent him from the suppers and flattery of Paris to

smell daffodils and watch sparrows. Life goes on—and whether the absent have retired into a cottage or a grave is much the same thing.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Dissolute. Relaxed, unbraced : now only applied to morals.

Who him disarmed, *dissolute*, dismayed,
Unwares surprised.—SPENSER.

In the year 1672 the French government determined to educate young men especially for the sea service, but the English government continued to distribute high naval commands among landmen. Any lad of birth, any *dissolute* courtier for whom one of the King's favourites would speak a word, might hope that a ship of the line and with it the honour of the country and the lives of brave men would be committed to his care. It mattered not that never in his life he had taken a voyage except on the Thames, that he could not keep his feet in a breeze, that he did not know the difference between latitude and longitude—no previous training was thought necessary.—MACAULAY.

Distractions. Detachments. Formerly used of the body as well as the mind.

While he was yet in Rome
His power went out in such *distractions*, as
Beguil'd all spies.

SHAKSPEARE, *Antony and Cleopatra*, iii. 7.

Their hearts so heavy, makes their heels so light,
That there was no entreating them to stay ;
O'er hedge and ditch *distractedly* they take,
And happiest he that greatest haste could make.

DRAYTON, *Battle of Agincourt*.

It is a lamentable thing that every man is full of complaints, and is constantly uttering sentences against the fickleness of fortune, when people generally bring upon themselves all the *distractions* they fall into, and are constantly heaping up matter for their own sorrow and disappointment.—STEELE.

Disturb. To move, without the modern sense of trouble or confusion.

Milton. It is impossible for the imagination of man to *disturb* itself with greater ideas than those which he has laid together in his first, second, and sixth books.—ADDISON.

In all subjects of deep and lasting interest you will detect a struggle between two opposite, two polar forces, both of which are alike necessary to our human well-being and necessary to the continued well-being of the other. Therefore we may contemplate with intense feelings those whirlwinds which are for free agency the appointed means and the only possible condition of that equilibrium in which our moral being subsists, while the *disturbance* of the same constitutes our sense of life.—COLERIDGE.

Diversion. } The metaphorical has superseded the
Divert. } literal meaning of 'turning aside.'

The crude apple that *diverted* Eve.—MILTON.

His manifold excuses, *diversions*, and delays are too well known to be recited here.—Id.

The last wild boars which had been preserved for the Royal *diversion*, and had been allowed to ravage the cultivated land with their tusks, had been slaughtered by the exasperated rustics during the licence of the civil wars.—MACAULAY.

Doctrine. Learning.

Witte without *doctrine* is as a tree without fruit.—Earl RIVERS.

The Restoration. The people were ready to place at the mercy of their sovereign all their most ancient and precious rights; the most servile *doctrines* were eagerly avowed, the Commons were more eager than the King himself to avenge the wrongs of the Royal house, more desirous than the bishops themselves to restore the Church, more ready to give money than the ministers to ask for it. All the contemporary accounts represent the nation as in a state of hysterical excitement, of drunken joy. In the immense multitude which crowded the

beach at Dover and bordered the road along which the King travelled to London, there was not one who was not weeping.—MACAULAY.

Doom. In the old poets sometimes means ‘opinion.’

That freshe was and jolier of array,
As to my *doom*, than is the month of May.—CHAUCER.

The which did seem unto my simple *doom*,
The only pleasant and delightful place.—SPENSER.

The Self-educated. It happens with some of this race that their first work has not announced genius, and their last is stamped with it. Some are often judged by their first work, and when they have surpassed themselves it is long ere it is acknowledged. They have improved themselves by the very neglect which their unfortunate efforts were *doomed* to meet. Never can the native faculty of genius with its creative warmth be crushed out of the human soul.—I. DISRAELI.

Dormitory. Once a place of eternal as well as temporary rest.

He had now for his new church built a *dormitory* or vault, with several repositories in which to bury his family.—JOHN EVELYN.

I went to church at Godstone and to see old Sir John Evelyn’s *dormitory* joining the church, paved with marble, where he and his lady lie on a very stately monument.—Id.

Yet all the bitter noxious part of death shall be taken away and so the grave turned into a *dormitory* or retiring-room, a place where the bodies rest in a sound sleep, till they be awakened unto bliss.—HAMMOND.

Irish Cottages. These mansions of miserable existence are most commonly composed of two rooms on the ground-floor; and a most appropriate term, for they are literally on the earth, the surface of which is commonly reduced a foot to save the expense of so much outward walling. The one is a refectory, the other a *dormitory*.—CURWEN.

Doubt. To dread : also, to expect, to hesitate.

As monsters that men *doubt*.—GOWER.

The mighty Lion *doubted* by sea and land.—SKELTON.

When the religion formally received is rent by discord, you may *doubt* the springing up of a new sect.—BACON.

And buds that yet the blast of Eurus fear,
Stand at the door and *doubt* to close the year.—DRYDEN.

The benefactor always retains some affection for the person whom he has benefited. No extent of ingratitude succeeds in utterly effacing this kindly feeling, for there cannot be a *doubt* that it is far happier to love than to be loved.—Sir A. HELPS.

Dread. Once used more in the sense of awe and reverential fear than of terror.

Give us a heart to love and *dread* thee.—*Litany*.

But yet I see you as much esteemed, as much beloved, as much *dreaded*, and perhaps more so (tho' it be almost impossible) than ever you were in your highest exaltation, only I grieve like an alderman that you are not so rich.—SWIFT, to Lord Bolingbroke.

His [Cromwell's] administration was glorious, but with no vulgar glory. It was not one of those periods of overstrained and convulsive exertion which necessarily produce debility and languor. Its energy was natural, healthful, and temperate ; he placed England at the head of the Protestant interest and in the first rank of Christian powers ; he taught every nation to value her friendship and to *dread* her enmity. This noble and sober wisdom had its reward.—MACAULAY.

Dreadful. Formerly, like 'awful,' sensible of fear.

And whan he saw his time, anon right he
With *dredful* herte and with ful humble chere
Salued hath his souveraine lady dere.

CHAUCER, *The Frankleine's Tale*.

Ful tenderly beginneth she to wepe,
 She rist her up, and *dreadfully* she quaketh,
 As doeth the branche that Zephirus shaketh.

CHAUCER, *Legend of Hypermnestre*.

The land of convicts and kangaroos is beginning to rise into a very fine and flourishing colony, and great indeed must be the natural resources and splendid the endowments of that land that has been able to survive the series of ignorant and absurd governors that have been selected for the administration of its affairs. One and no small excuse for the misconduct of Colonial Secretaries is the enormous quantity of business by which they are distracted. There should be two or three Colonial Secretaries, instead of one; the office is *dreadfully* overweighted; the government of the colonies is commonly a series of blunders.—SYDNEY SMITH, 1818.

Drench. Now only to soak or souse, but once even to drown.

Me from the fiend, and from his clawes keepe,
 That day that I shall *drenchen* in the deepe.—CHAUCER.

O Pandarus! I tell thee, Pandarus,—
 When I do tell thee, there my hopes lie *drown'd*,
 Reply not in how many fathoms deep
 They be *indrench'd*.

SHAKESPEARE, *Troilus and Cressida*, i. 1.

Baptism doth imply as well dipping as *drenching* in water.—FULLER.

And now Mars, driven from the dreadful field,
 That he had *drenched* with blood.—COWPER, *Iliad*.

Dress. To guide, to distribute: now chiefly applied to food and clothing, except in the military phrase 'dress by the right or left,' in which the old meaning seems to have been retained.

By needle and stone and by the load-stone,
 Mariners aye their course they *dress*.—LYDGATE.

All the land that he had
Faine he would it were *dressed* among them all.

CHAUCER.

To *dress* our feet into the way of peace.—WICLIF'S *Bible*,
Luke i.

For my part, when I behold a fashionable table *dressed* in all its magnificence, I fancy that I see gouts and dropsies, fevers and lethargy, with other innumerable distempers lying in ambuscade among the dishes. Nature delights in the most plain and simple diet. Every animal but man keeps to one dish: man falls upon everything that comes in his way; not the smallest fruit or excrescence, scarce a berry or a mushroom can escape him.—ADDISON.

Droll. A merry person, a wag.

Thomas Killigrew, a merry *droll*, but a gentleman of high esteem about the king.—SAMUEL PEPYS.

Where the *droll*,
Whose every look and gesture was a joke
To clapping theatres and shouting crowds,
And made e'en thick-lipped musing Melancholy
To gather up her face into a smile.—BLAIR.

In the first place, I must observe there is a set of merry *drolls*, whom the common people of all countries admire, and seem to love so well, that they could eat them, according to the old proverb.—*Spectator*.

Some schoolmen have put the *droll* case, that if an ass were placed between two bundles of hay which affected his senses equally on either side, whether it would be possible for him to eat of either. They generally determine the question to the disadvantage of the ass, who, they say, would starve in the midst of plenty, not having a single grain of free-will to determine him more to one than the other—like the two magnets which are said to have been placed one on the roof the other in the floor of Mahomet's burying-place, and by that means pull the impostor's coffin with such equal attraction that it hangs in the air between them.—ADDISON.

Drown. To sink.

I might have brenned the ships at Breast Castle, or else to have destroyed the haven there with *drowning* of ships.—Admiral HOWARD to *Wolsey*.

Gallies might be *drowned* in the harbour with the great ordnance before they could be rigged.—KNOLLIS, *History*.

Rustic Lovers. 'Still do you hear me without one smile? It is too much to bear.' He had no sooner spoke these words than he made an offer of throwing himself into the water, at which his mistress started up, and at the next instant he jumped across the fountain and met her in an embrace. She, half recovering from her fright, said, in the most charming voice imaginable, and with a tone of complaint, 'I thought how well you would *drown* yourself. No, no, you won't *drown* yourself until you have taken your leave of Susan Holiday!'—ADDISON.

E.

Eager. The literal meaning, 'sharp,' 'acrid,' (*acer*, *aigre*,) has now disappeared.

Like as, to make our appetites more keen
With *eager* compounds, we our palate urge.

SHAKESPEARE, *Sonnet* cxviii.

It is a nipping and an *eager* air.—Id., *Hamlet*, i. 4.

Inner Temple. What an antique air had the now almost effaced sundials, with their moral inscriptions, seeming coeval with that Time which they measured, and to take their revelations of its flight immediately from Heaven, holding correspondence with the fountains of light! How would the dark line steal imperceptibly on, watched by the eye of childhood, *eager* to detect its movement never catch'd—nice as an evanescent cloud, or the first arrests of sleep!—C. LAMB.

Easily. Readily.

They *easily* heard him and obey'd.—CHAPMAN.

The coarsest morals of antiquarian learning he abandons to others, and sets out an entertainment worthy of a Roman epicure, an entertainment consisting of nothing but delicacies—the brains of singing birds, the roe of mullets, the sunny halves of peaches. This we think the great merit of his ‘Romance.’ Walpole’s letters are generally considered his best performances. His wild, absurd, and ever-changing opinions about men and things are *easily* pardoned in familiar letters.—MACAULAY.

Ecstasy. Once, madness; but now reduced to rapture.

Now see that noble and most sovereign reason,
Like sweet bells jangled, out of tune and harsh,
That unmatched form and feature of blown youth
Blasted with *ecstasy*, O woe is me!

SHAKESPEARE, *Hamlet*, iii. 1.

What! are you dreaming, son? with eyes cast upwards
Like a mad prophet in an *ecstasie*.—DRYDEN, *Cleomenes*, iv.

Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid
Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire:
Hands that the rod of empire might have swayed,
Or wak’d to *ecstasy* the living lyre.—GRAY, *Elegy*.

Edify. No longer used in its literal sense of building or constructing.

Almighty God, vouchsafe to grant that ye
For you and your children well may *edify*.
My Palace builded is, and lo! now here I lie.

Sir T. MORE.

And thereupon did raise ful busily
A little mount, of green turf *edified*.—SPENSER.

Early the next year King Edward re-*edified* Towchester.—MILTON.

Jeremy Bentham. His mind was vigorous, comprehensive, subtle, fertile of arguments, fertile of illustrations, but he spoke in an unknown tongue, and that the congregation might be *edified*, it was necessary that some brother, having the gift of

interpretation, should expound the invaluable jargon. His oracles were of high import, but they were traced on leaves and flung loose to the wind.—MACAULAY.

Effectually. The use of the word as earnestly, emphatically, has been lost : now, to some purpose, successfully, completely.

Most humbly and *effectually* beseeching your Grace to receive him into your house and service.—Lord CROMWELL to *Cardinal Wolsey*.

Now when I speak of Patrons, I do not mean those who either have it not in their power *effectually* to serve their friends, or have no obligation to do so ; but I speak of such leagues where there is power and obligation on the one part, and merit and expectation on the other. Worthy patrons are like Plato's guardian Angels who are always doing good to their wards. But negligent patrons are like Epicurus's Gods that lie rolling on the clouds, and instead of blessings, pour down storms and tempests on the head of those who are offering incense to them.—STEELE.

Embezzle. Once meant (like *bezzle*) to squander.

I leave to W. Adrian Drift the sum of £1,000 to be employed and disposed of at his discretion, hoping that his industry and management will be such that he will not *embezzle* or decrease the same.—MAT. PRIOR'S *Will*.

What when thou hast *embezel'd* all thy store ?
Where's all thy father left ? 'Tis true, I grant,
Some I have mortgag'd, to supply my want.

DRYDEN, *Persius*, *Satire* vi.

Public works executed by Government. In a corrupt age, there will be direct *embezzlement* ; in the purest age, there will be abundance of jobbing ; in a bad age, the fate of the public is to be robbed ; in a good age it is much milder—merely to have the dearest and the worst of everything.—MACAULAY.

Emboss. In old sporting language a deer was said to be *embossed* when it foamed at the mouth, or its

knees were swollen as it were in bosses, from hard running. Hence to emboss was to overpower, fatigue: also apparently to 'enclose.'

Like dastard cures, that having at a bay
The salvage beast *embost* in weary chase,
Dare not adventure on the stubborn pray,
Ne byte before.—SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, iii. 1.

None of them rashly durst to her approche,
Ne in so glorious spoyle themselves *embosse*.—Id., ib.

Timon hath made his everlasting mansion
Upon the beached verge of the salt flood,
Which once a day with his *embossed* froth
The turbulent surge shall cover.

SHAKSPEARE, *Timon of Athens*, v. 2.

Like that self-begotten bird,
In the Arabian woods *embost*,
That ne second knows nor third—MILTON.

Eminent. } The two following passages present
Eminency. } lost meanings of these words.

I will crop off from the top of his young twigs a tender one, and will plant it upon an high mountain and *eminent*.—*Authorised Version*, *Ezekiel* xvii. 22.

His *eminencies* were painting and graving—two qualities disposing him to be useful.—FULLER.

Milton. His great Poem was not generally studied or admired till writers far inferior to him had, by obsequiously cringing to the public taste, acquired sufficient favour to reform it. Of these Dryden was the most *eminent*.—MACAULAY.

Emulation. Sometimes occurs among old writers in the sense of envy, or factious contention.

I was advertized, their General slept,
Whilst *emulation* in the army crept.

SHAKSPEARE, *Troilus and Cressida*, ii. 2.

[Sydenham] led on alone by the independence of his genius attacked the most prevailing prejudices, and so highly provoked the malignant *emulation* of his rivals that a conspiracy was raised against the father of our modern practice, to banish him out of the College as 'guilty of medical heresy.'—I. DISRAELI.

A noble *emulation* prevailed among the companions to obtain the first place in the estimation of their chief: among the chiefs, to acquire the greatest number of valiant companions.—GIBBON, *Roman Empire*.

Endeavour. Once, to essay, attempt.

I have searched the sore, and hope that you will *endeavour* the medicine.—FULLER.

It is one among many reasons for which I purpose to *endeavour* the entertainment of my countrymen by a short essay on Tuesday and Saturday, that I hope not much to tire those whom I do not happen to please; and if I am not commended for the beauty of my works, to be at least pardoned for their brevity.—*Rambler*.

It is therefore an unspeakable advantage to possess our minds with an habitual good intention, and to *endeavour* that all our thoughts should have some laudable end, whether it be to the glory of our Maker, the good of mankind, or the benefit of our own souls.—STEELE.

Endure. Old meaning, to continue long.

But in your service thus I will *endure*.—CHAUCER.

Better be the maimed soldier, the ruined peasant, the bayoneted child, the dishonoured mother—better *endure* the whole misery of a disastrous campaign, than have the fatal responsibility which lies upon that man who, in wantonness, or selfishness, or even from reckless miscalculation, has been the main promoter of a war that might have been avoided.—SIR A. HELPS.

Engaged. Occurs in the physical sense of 'bound up' (*obligatus*).

There be monks in Russia that will sit a whole night in a vessel of water, till they be *engaged* with hard ice.—BACON.

Milton, in a letter to a friend, finely describes the eager delight of his pursuit of study, and his exultation in its progress. 'Such is the character of my mind, that no delay, none of the ordinary cessations for rest, or otherwise, I had nearly said care or thinking of the very subject, can hold me back from being hurried on to the destined point, and from completing the great circuit as it were of the study in which I am *engaged*.'—I. DISRAELI.

Engross. The word presents various meanings, some of which are obsolete.

Then he opposed to them his last left roast,
And in a wicker basket, bread *engrossed*.—CHAPMAN.

The waves whereof, so slow and sluggish were,
Engrossed with mud which did them foul agrieve,
That every weighty thing they did upheare.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*.

Engrossing was also described to be the getting into one's possession, or buying up, large quantities of corn or other dead victuals, with intent to sell them again.—BLACKSTONE, *Commentaries*, Bk. iv. ch. 12.

It has been most truthfully and philosophically stated that there is a principle in the constitution of our nature, which renders us dissatisfied with what we thoroughly understand in all its parts. When there is nothing more to *engross* the mind or to be discovered from that moment it begins to pall upon us, and we must pass to something which will give scope to the activities of the human mind.—AINSLEY.

Entail. Formerly meant to engrave, cut, or carve (Italian *intagliare*). Also used like the French *taille*, for a lady's figure. The legal term means 'to cut off' an estate from the general heirs.

A curious cross craftily *entailed*.

Piers the Ploughman's Crede.

And these images all without
He did them both *entail* and paint.

CHAUCER, *Romaunt of the Rose*.

This lady was of good *entaile*
Right wonderful of apparaile.—Id.

He made an image of *entaile*
Liche to a woman in semblance,
Of feature, and of countenance,
So fayre yet never was figure,
Right as a live's creature
She seemeth.—GOWER, *Confessio Amantis*, Bk. iv.

The mortal steel despiteously *entail'd*
Deepe in their flesh, quite through the iron walles,
That a large purple stream adown their giambeaux falls.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*.

In gilden buskins of costly cordwaine,
All bar'd with golden bendes, which were *entayled*
With curious antickes, and full fair aumayl'd.

Id., *Ib.* ii. 3.

We adhere to the determination of our fathers, as if their opinions were *entail'd* on us as their lands ; or (as some conceive) part of the parent's soul were portioned out to his offspring, and the conceptions of our minds were *ex traduce*.—GLANVIL, *The Vanity of Dogmatising*.

If the chief part of human happiness arises from the consciousness of being beloved, as I believe it does, sudden changes of fortune seldom *entail* much happiness. He is happiest who advances more gradually to greatness, whom the public destines to every step of his preferment long before he arrives at it, in whom upon that account when it arrives, it can excite no extravagant joy, and with regard to whom it cannot reasonably create either any jealousy in those he overtakes, or any envy in those he leaves behind.—ADAM SMITH.

Entertain. The past and present meanings of this word are best shown by the following illustrations. The several variations may be traced without difficulty

to the original sense 'to hold' or 'receive' either with mind or body.

How men ought to *entertain* sermons:—Not to enquire after the learning of the sermon, or its deliciousness to the ear or fancy, but observe its usefulness.—FULLER.

The Archbishop of St. Andrews, the Lord Chancellor, and divers others offering to appease the multitude, were *entertained* with bitter curses and imprecations.—*Time of King Charles I.*

David *entertained* himself with the meditation of God's laws.—*Decay of Piety.*

Broader and broader yet their blooms display,
Salute the welcome sun, and *entertain* the day.

DRYDEN.

This was her own relation, and was such a distinct account of starving to death, as I confess I never met with, and was exceedingly *entertaining* to me.—DEFOE.

The progress of knowledge is as *entertaining* as that of arms.—FELTON.

Upon my going into the church, I *entertained* myself with the digging of a grave.—ADDISON.

A woman of accomplishments may *entertain* those who have the pleasure of knowing her for half an hour with great brilliancy. But a mind full of ideas, and with that elastic spring which the love of knowledge only can convey, is a perpetual source of exhilaration and amusement to all that come within its reach. Therefore, instead of hanging the understanding of a woman upon walls, or hearing it vibrate upon strings, instead of seeing it in clouds or hearing it in the wind, we would make it the first sprig and ornament of society, by enriching it with attainments upon which alone that power depends.—SYDNEY SMITH, *on Female Education.*

On Sunday dined with Rogers, Moore, Sydney Smith, Macaulay. Sydney less vivacious than usual, and somewhat overpowered and talked down by what Moore called the *flumen sermonis* of Macaulay. Sydney calls Macaulay 'a book in breeches.' All that this latter says, all that he writes, exhibits his great powers and astonishing information, but I don't think

he is agreeable. It is more than society requires and not exactly of the kind; his figure, face, voice, and manner are all bad; he astonishes and instructs, he sometimes *entertains*, seldom amuses, and still seldomer pleases. He wants variety, elasticity, gracefulness; his is a roaring torrent, and not a meandering stream of talk. I believe we would all of us have been glad to exchange some of his sense for some of Sydney Smith's nonsense. He told me that he had read Sir Charles Grandison fifteen times.—*Greville Memoirs*, 1833.

Entirely. Sincerely, faithfully. 'Entire' (*integer*) is literally *untouched*, and so undivided, uncorrupt, perfect, secure.

In this worshipful city called Hereford by name
He being seven times Mayor and ruler of the same,
Which benefit considered, all this country is bound
Entirely to pray for him all the year round.

Inscription in Hereford Cathedral, 1572.

And gan to highest God *entirely* pray,
That feared chance from her to turn away.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*.

Thus though the providence of nature hath privileged Islanders by their *entire* position to secure themselves, yet are they unhappy in not long keeping their acquisitions on the Continent.—FULLER.

Vote by ballot. The noise and jollity of a ballot mob must be such as the very Devils would look on with delight. A set of deceitful wretches wearing the wrong colours, abusing their friends, pelting the man for whom they voted, drinking their enemies' punch, knocking down persons with whom they *entirely* agreed, and roaring out eternal damnation to principles they admired. A scene of wholesale Bacchanalian fraud, a *posse comitatus* of liars, which would disgust any man with a free government, and make him sigh for the despotism of Constantinople.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Entreat. The old meaning 'to treat of' or 'to behave towards' has been quite lost.

Richard, the third son, of whom we now *entreat*, was in wit and courage equal with either of them.—Sir T. MORE.

His affectionate zeal [to the Minstrels] should have induced Edward the First to *entreat* his brethren, the Welsh Bards, afterwards with more lenity.—PERCY.

A servant once belonging to Sir Roger who now kept a little Inn, in order to do honour to his old master, had put him up in a sign-post, calling it the Knight's Head. As soon as Sir Roger became acquainted with it, he observed that it was too great an honour for any man under a Duke, and that he would be at the charge of having it altered into the Saracen's Head. I could not forbear discovering much mirth at this monstrous face. Sir Roger *entreated* me to tell him whether I thought it possible for people to know him in that disguise. Was it not still more like himself than any Saracen? I composed my countenance in the best manner I could, and replied that 'much might be said on both sides.'—ADDISON.

Equipage. Once had a larger meaning than at present, including not only dress and carriages but even attendants.

If *equipage* and address make Turnus appear more courageous than Æneas, conduct and success make Æneas more valiant than Turnus.—*Spectator*.

In the meantime the drummer, the Captain's *equipage*, was very loud that none of the Captain's things should be placed so as to be spoiled.—Id.

I have a pretty implement with the respective names of shirts, cravats, handkerchiefs, and stockings, with proper numbers to know how to reckon with my laundress. This being all the business I have in the world, I am at full leisure to observe upon what others do with regard to their *equipage* and economy.—Id.

Sa Majesté Patapanique [Horace Walpole's dog, given to him by Sir Horace Mann] has had a dreadful misfortune! Not lost his first minister; nor had his *equipage* burnt—Worse! Worse! Quarrelling with a great pointer last night about their

countesses, he received a terrible shake by the back, and a bruise on the left eye—Poor dear Pat! You never saw such universal consternation. It was at supper. Sir Robert, who makes as much rout with him as I do, says he never saw two people show so much real sorrow.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Errors. Windings. Used also by Dryden for the currents of the sea.

What brought you living to the Stygian Lake?
 Driv'n by the winds and *errors* of the sea,
 Or did you Heaven's superior doom obey?—DRYDEN.

Where the pure limpid stream has slid along
 In grateful *errors* through the underwood,
 Sweet murmuring.—BLAIR.

A lady once asked Dr. Johnson how he came to commit the *error* of defining *pastern* as the *knee* of the horse? Instead of making an elaborate defence, as she expected, he at once answered, 'Ignorance, madam, pure ignorance.'—BOSWELL.

Essay. Formerly meant notes, specimens, or outlines, like a sketch in painting; now, a finished treatise.

To write just treatises requireth leisure in the writer and leisure in the reader; . . . which is the cause that hath made me choose to write certain brief notes, set down rather significantly than curiously, which I have called *Essays*. The word is late, but the thing is ancient.—BACON, to *Prince Henry*.

Essays not being placed as at a feast, but placing themselves as at an ordinary.—FULLER.

[Saith Tully] the *essay* (i. e. specimen) of any kind is rather to be taken from the best and most usual, than from the worst and most depraved part of it.—WILKINS, *Natural Religion*.

It were well that some skilful *essayist* should write a short treatise on the art of taking things coolly. What an elaborate worry we travellers almost always make of travelling. How resolved we are to see more than can possibly be seen with profit or comfort. How much too large and comprehensive our plans

are. How seldom we let ourselves be carried away by any real present enjoyment.—Sir A. HELPS.

Estate. No longer applied to rank or condition, nor, except in legal phraseology, to moveable property.

Then they her sought, and everywhere enquired
Where they might tidings get of her *estate*.—SPENSER.

The *estate* of Christian people was in worse case concerning these matters (of ceremonies) than were the Jews.—*Preface to Book of Common Prayer*.

All the *estate* of the elders.—*Authorised Version, Acts xxii. 5*.

I went to the Exchange, and I hear that the merchants have a great fear of a breach with the Spaniards. And our merchants do begin to draw home their *estates* as fast as they can.—S. PEPYS.

Every animal has his enemies, the land tortoise has two enemies—man, and the Boa Constrictor. The natural defence of the land tortoise is to draw himself up in his shell, and to remain quiet. In this state the tiger, however famished, can do nothing with him, for the shell is too strong for the stroke of his paw. Man, however, takes him home and roasts him, and the Boa Constrictor swallows him whole, shell and all, and consumes him slowly in the interior, as the Court of Chancery does a great *estate*.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Eternity. Immortality—having a beginning, but no end.

Now newly performed by that rare Italian master, Julio Romano; who, had he himself *eternity* and could put breath into his work, would beguile nature of her custom, so perfectly he is her ape.—SHAKESPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, v. 2.

Eternity is a duration without bounds or limits. Now there are two limits of duration, beginning and ending; that which has always been is without beginning; that which always shall be is without end.—TILLOTSON.

We consider infinite space as an expansion without a circumference. We consider *eternity*, an infinite duration, as a time that has neither beginning nor end. In our speculations of

infinite space, we consider that particular place in which we exist, as a kind of centre to the whole expansion; in our speculations of *eternity*, we consider the time which is present to us as the middle which divides the whole line into two equal parts.—ADDISON.

Evidently. Formerly employed where we should now use ‘manifestly,’ ‘clearly.’

Cornelius saw in a vision *evidently* an angel.—*Authorised Version, Acts x. 3.*

Jesus Christ hath been *evidently* set forth crucified.—Id., *Galatians iii. 1.*

As nature has appointed and determined the several growths and decays of the vegetable race, so she seems, as *evidently*, to have prescribed the same laws to man. And when the evolutions of these powers are exhausted, the creature expires and dies of itself, as ripe fruit falls from the tree, as a flower preserved beyond its bloom drops and perishes upon the stalk.—STERNE.

Exhibition. The old meaning, of maintenance or sustenance, has been lost, except in the name of school and college exhibitions.

What maintenance he from his friends receives,
Like *exhibition* thou shalt have from me.

SHAKESPEARE, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, i. 3.

I crave fit disposition for my wife,
Due reverence of place and *exhibition*,
With such accommodation and resort
As levels with her breeding.—Id., *Othello*, i. 3.

Thou art a younger brother, and hast nothing but thy *exhibition*; which I protest shall be bare indeed, if thou forsake not these unprofitable bye-courses, and that timely too.—BEN JONSON, *Poetaster*.

The ‘Society for the Suppression of Vice’ details with symptoms of great complacency their detection of a bear-baiting in Black-boy Alley, Chick Lane, and the prosecution of the offenders before a magistrate. It appears to us that nothing can be more

partial and unjust than this kind of proceedings. A man of ten thousand a year may worry a fox as much as he pleases, may encourage the breed of a mischievous animal on purpose to worry it, and a poor labourer is carried before a magistrate for paying sixpence to see an *exhibition* of courage between a dog and a bear! Any cruelty may be practised to gorge the stomachs of the rich, none to enliven the holidays of the poor. We venerate those feelings which really protect creatures susceptible of pain, but heaven-born pity, now-a-days, calls for the income tax and the Court Guide, and ascertains the rank and fortune of the tormentor, before she weeps for the pain of the sufferer.—
 SYDNEY SMITH.

Exigent. Occurs as equivalent to ‘end,’ ‘extremity.’

These eyes, like lamps whose wasting oil is spent,
 Wax dim, as drawing to their *exigent*.

SHAKESPEARE, 1 *Henry VI*, ii. 5.

Pittyng the unhappy and unfortunate beautie of the damsell;
 and bewailing the hard *exigent* and extremitie of the father.—
 HOLLAND, *Livy*.

An account of persons, male and female, who offered up their vows in the temple of the Pythian Apollo, in the forty-sixth Olympiad, and leaped from the promontory of Leucate into the Ionian Sea, in order to cure themselves of the *exigent* passion of love.

Aridæus, a beautiful youth of Epirus, in love with Praxinoë, the wife of Thespiis, escaped without damage, saving that two of his teeth were knocked out and his nose flatted.

Cleora, a widow of Ephesus, being inconsolable for the death of her husband, was resolved to take this leap in order to get rid of her passion for his memory, but being arrived at the promontory, and after a short conversation with Dimmachus the Milesian, laid aside the thoughts of her leap, and married him in the temple of Apollo. N.B. Her widow's weeds are still to be seen hanging up in the western corner of the temple.

Diagoras, the usurer, in love with his cook-maid, peeped several times over the precipice, but his heart misgiving him, he went back and married her that evening.

Hipparchus being violently in love with his own wife, who

was enamoured of Bathyllus, leaped, and died of his fall. His wife married Bathyllus.—ADDISON.

Existence. Used by Chaucer for ‘reality.’

She maketh through her adversitie
Men full clerely for to see
Him that is frend in *existence*
From him that is by apperence.

CHAUCER, *Romaunt of the Rose*.

Besides, Sir, if this measure itself is good, I ask the honorable gentleman if this is the time for carrying it into execution? Whether, in fact, a more unfortunate period could have been selected than that which he has chosen. If this were an ordinary measure, I should not have opposed it with so much vehemence, but Sir, it calls in question the wisdom of an irrevocable law, a law passed at the memorable period of the Revolution. What right have we, Sir, to break down this firm column on which the great men of that age stamped a character of eternity? Are not all authorities against this measure, Pitt, Fox, Cicero, and the Attorney and Solicitor-General! The proposition is new, Sir, it is the first time it was ever called into *existence* in this House. I am not prepared, Sir, this House is not prepared, to receive it.—SYDNEY SMITH, *Noodle's Oration*.

Expatiate. To diffuse.

For it is the seed, and the nature of it, which looketh and boundeth in the creature that it doth not *expatiate*.—BACON.

Special Pleaders. All that has been written by text-men or by Judges, however much they know of law, and however much practice has given them great expertness in the application, yet even when their education has not been confined to mere matter of law, it has indeed been far from a very enlarged one, nor has it brought them into a familiar acquaintance with the scenes which expand the mind, make it conscious of new powers, and lead it to compare, and *expatiate*, and explore.—BROUGHAM.

Expect. To wait.

Elihu had *expected* till Job had spoken.—*Authorised Version*, Job xxxii. 4.

As there never was a perfect man, it would therefore be the height of absurdity to *expect* a perfect party, or a perfect assembly, for large bodies are far more liable to err than individuals. The passions are inflamed by sympathy ; the fear of punishment and sense of shame are diminished 'by partition. Every day we see men do for their faction what they would die rather than do for themselves.—MACAULAY.

Expedient. Used by Shakspeare as 'expeditious.'

Expedient manage must be made, my liege,
Ere further leisure yield them further means.

SHAKSPEARE, *Richard II*, i. 4.

His marches are *expedient* to this town,
His forces strong, his soldiers confident.—Id., *John*, ii. 1.

What would our ancestors say to this, Sir? How does the measure tally with their institutions, how does it agree with their experience? Are we to put the wisdom of yesterday in competition with the wisdom of centuries? (Hear, hear.) Is beardless youth to show no consideration for the wisdom of mature age? (Loud cries of hear, hear.) If this measure be right, would it have escaped the wisdom of those Saxon progenitors to whom we are indebted for so many of our best political institutions? Would the Dane have passed it over, would the Norman have rejected it, would such a notable discovery have been reserved for these modern and degenerate times to test its *expediency*?—SYDNEY SMITH, *Noodle's Oration*.

Expend. Occurs among some old writers in its literal meaning of 'to weigh.'

For in all matters that man takes in hand, this consideration ought first to be had, that we first diligently *expend* the cause before we go through with it.—WILSON.

Time is measured by man by the impression of successive ideas, and these diminish in a ratio of their own increase. Consequently time appears less as men advance in age, or are variously employed. At ten, a year seems to be twice as long as at twenty, and three times as long as at thirty, circumstances of

employment and position being the same. Hence a month *expended* in travelling, seems equal to three in usual pursuits, time being mentally measured by the impressions of new ideas.—
PHILLIPS.

Experimented. Learned, experienced. The same meaning occurs in Locke (*Human Understanding*), but has now disappeared.

Of one thyng I am sure, and I saie it not because I have seen it, but *experimented* in myself, that though the husband do al that the wife wil, yet wil she do nothyng that her husband wolde have done.—*Golden Book*.

Of good religion and living, and well *experimented*—as well in the Old Testament as New.—*Letter of Hogan* (1577), *British Museum*.

Expostulate. Once, to discuss, debate.

My liege and madam, to *expostulate*
What majesty should be, what duty is,
Why day is day, night night, and time is time,
Were nothing but to waste night, day, and time.

SHAKSPEARE, *Hamlet*, ii. 2.

One good lady, whom I took the liberty of *expostulating* with for not showing me quite so much respect as I thought due to her husband's old friend, had the candour to confess to me that her expectations were much disappointed. She had formed a notion that she was to see a fine, tall, officer-looking man, and I had the civility not to ask her, in return, how she came to pitch upon a standard of personal accomplishments for her husband's friend, which differed so much from his own.—
C. LAMB.

Exquisite. This word has lost several varieties of its older meaning.

The species of bodies, or more *exquisite* collections of matter, by us called the smaller assemblages, in which alone the industry of writers has appeared.—BACON.

Peace, brother, be not over *exquisite*

To cast the fashion of uncertain evils.—MILTON, *Comus*.

It seems they [the Jews] have learnt this sin [poisoning] after their dispersion, and since are grown *exquisite* in that act of wickedness.—FULLER.

No private quarrel ever happens, in which the right and wrong are so *exquisitely* divided, that all the right lies on one side, and all the wrong on the other. But here was a schism which separated a great nation into two parties. Each of them attracted to itself in multitudes those fierce and turbid spirits to whom the clouds and whirlwinds of the political hurricane are the atmosphere of life.—MACAULAY, *Civil Wars of Charles I.*

Extended. An old meaning of this word, which now survives only in legal terminology, is explained by Blackstone.

This manor is *extended* to my use,

You'll speak in a humbler key, and sue for favour.

MASSINGER, *A New Way to pay Old Debts*, v. 1.

Yet there lives a foolish creature called an under-Sheriff, who being well paid will serve an *extent* on Lord's or Town's land.—Id., *The City Madam*, v. 2.

The process hereon is usually called an *extent* or *extendi facias*, because the sheriff is to cause the lands, &c., to be appraised to their full *extended* value, before he delivers them to the plaintiff, that it may be certainly known how soon the debt will be satisfied.—BLACKSTONE, *Commentaries*.

We have attempted to show that as knowledge is *extended*, and as the reason developes itself, the imitative arts decay. We should therefore expect that the conception of poetry would commence with the educated classes of society. And this, in fact, is almost constantly the case.—MACAULAY.

Extenuate. This word presents some interesting changes of meaning. It is now generally applied to crime, sin, or punishment.

Radishe roots have the vertu to *extenuate*, or make thyn, and also to warm.—Sir T. ELYOT, *Castle of Health*.

The question of his death is enrolled in the capitol, his glory not *extenuated*, wherein he was worthy ; nor his offences enforced, for which he suffered death.—SHAKSPEARE, *Julius Cæsar*, iii. 2.

Speak of me as I am ; nothing *extenuate*,
Nor set down aught in malice ; then must you speak,
Of one that loved not wisely but too well.—Id., *Othello*, v. 2.

Just are thy ways,
Righteous are thy decrees. On all thy works,
Who can *extenuate* thee !—MILTON.

It must be admitted that in Lord Clive's case there were many *extenuating* circumstances. He considered himself as the General, not of the Crown, but of the East India Company. The Company had, by implication at least, authorised its agents to enrich themselves by means of the liberality of native princes. It was hardly to be expected that the servant should entertain stricter notions of his duty than were entertained by his master.—MACAULAY.

Extravagant. Wandering out of bounds ; and so, wild, prodigal : now only used in the latter senses.

At his warning,
The *extravagant* and erring spirit hies
To his confine.—SHAKSPEARE, *Hamlet*, i. 1.
Giving her beauty, wit, and fortune
To an *extravagant* and wheeling stranger.—Id., *Othello*, i. 1.

Walking about the solitudes [at Tonbridge Wells] I greatly admired the *extravagant* turnings, insinuations, and growth of certaine birch trees among the rocks.—EVELYN, *Memoirs* (1661).

It may be enquired whether, in certain characters, in comedy especially—which are a little *extravagant*, a comedian, without absolutely appealing to an audience, may not keep up a tacit understanding with them, and make them unconsciously to themselves a party to the scene. The utmost nicety is required in doing this, but we speak only of the great artists of the profession.—C. LAMB.

F.

Fact. No longer equivalent to 'deed,' its literal meaning.

Brave Ajax, that for form and *fact* hast all that did maintain
The Grecian fame.—CHAPMAN, *Iliad*.

The Amazon dames, that in their *facts* affected to be men.
Id.

Better a superficial book which brings well and strikingly together the known and acknowledged *facts*, than a dull, boring narrative, pausing to see further into a mill-stone than the nature of the mill-stone admits.—SIR WALTER SCOTT.

Fade. Withered. The adjective is now obsolete.

The pomel of his sword to ground
She set, and with the point a wound
Throughout her heart anon she made,
And forthwith that, all pale and *fade*,
She fell down dead.—GOWER.

Vanity is of such a versatile nature, that it will accommodate itself to all ages, fortunes, and circumstances. Hope grows old, aspirations become middle-aged, and even strong affections *fade* away; but vanity knows none of these foolish changes, and remains as unwrinkled as the sea. It is like the insect which always takes the colour of the leaf it feeds upon, and always finds a leaf to feed upon.—SIR A. HELPS.

Familiar. Applied in superstitious times to spirits supposed to attend at call. Also, in a more corporeal sense, an officer or attendant.

Love is a *familiar*; love is a devil: there is no evil angel but love.—SHAKSPEARE, *Love's Labour's Lost*, i. 2.

We should, as learned poets use,
Invoke the assistance of some muse;

However Critics count it sillier
Than Jugglers talking to *familiar*.

S. BUTLER, *Hudibras*, i. 1.

He was not only skilled in natural magic (the utmost bounds whereof border on the suburbs of Hell), but is charged to converse constantly with *Familiars*.—FULLER, *Life of Paracelsus*.

Shakspeare's Hamlet is, as it were, wrapped up in the clouds of his reflections, and only thinks aloud. There should therefore be no attempt to impress what he says upon others by any exaggeration or emphasis of manner, no talking *at* his hearers. There should be as much of the gentleman and scholar as possible infused into the part, and as little of the actor. A pensive air of sadness should sit unwillingly upon his brow, but no appearance of fixed or sullen gloom. In some of the *familiar* scenes Kean displayed more energy than was necessary.—HAZLITT.

Fare. To go on. Hence the substantive comes to mean 'the sum paid for the passage,' also 'provisions.' The migration of eels in the Thames is called the 'eel-*fare*,' and the old meaning survives in 'way-farer.'

She thanketh him upon her kneis bare,
And home unto her husband is she *fare*,
And told him all, as ye have heard me say.

CHAUCER, *The Frankeleine's Tale*.

Seeing the doubled shadows low to fall,
Gathering his straying flocks does homeward *fare*.

SPENSER.

One knocked at the door and in would *fare*,
He knocked fast and often curst and sware.—Id.

So on he *fares*, and to the border came
Of Eden.—MILTON.

Then do you remember our pleasant walks to Enfield and Potter's Bar and Waltham, when we had a holiday,—and the little hand-basket, in which I used to deposit our day's *fare* of savoury cold lamb and salad,—and how you would pry about noon-tide for some decent house where we might go in and

produce our store, only paying for the ale that you must call for? Now, if we go out a day's pleasuring, which is seldom, we ride part of the way, and go into a fine inn, and order the best of dinners, which have not half the relish of those country snaps.—C. LAMB.

Farthing. A *fourth*-ing, or dividing into four parts. So 'tithing,' or division into tenths.

Hire over-lippe wiped she so clene,
That in hire cuppe was no *ferthing* seene
Of grese, whan she dronken had hire drauht.

CHAUCER, *Prologue*.

A *farthing* deal of land means the fourth part of an acre.—WALSINGHAM.

This is to certify that the Master of the Cock and Bottle at Temple Bar hath shut up his house. All persons who have any accounts or *farthings* belonging to the said house are desired to repair thither before the 8th of this instant July.—*Intelligencer*, 1665.

In this agreeable interval my wife had the most lucky dreams in the world. It was, one night, a coffin and cross-bones, the sign of an approaching wedding. At another time, she imagined her daughter's pockets filled with *farthings*, a certain sign of their being stuffed with gold. The girls themselves had their omens,—purses bounced from the fire, and true-love-knots lurked in the bottom of every tea-cup.—GOLD-SMITH.

Fastidious. Once, causing, as well as feeling, disgust.

It is better to marry a shrew, than a sheep. For though silence be a dumb orator of beauty and the best ornament of a woman, yet a phlegmatic, dull wife is fulsome and *fastidious*.—JAMES HOWELL (1625).

Horace Walpole. The most eccentric, the most artificial, the most *fastidious* of men. In everything in which he busied him-

self, in the fine arts, in literature, in public affairs, he was drawn by some strange attraction from the great to the little, and from the useful to the odd.—MACAULAY.

Favour. Countenance, feature.

Thou dost speak masterly ;
My life upon 't, young though thou art, thine eye
Hath stayed upon some *favour* that it loves ;
Hath it not, boy ?—SHAKSPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, ii. 4.

I have surely seen him ;
His *favour* is familiar to me.—Id., *Cymbeline*, v. 5.

A youth of fine *favour* and shape.—BACON.

In the healthy state of the moral feelings, the emotion of sympathy excited by a tale of sorrow ought to be followed by some efforts in *favor* of the relief of the sufferer. In fictitious tales of sorrow, the emotion is produced without the corresponding conduct, and when this habit has been much indulged in, the result seems to be, that a cold and barren sentimentalism is produced instead of the habit of active benevolence.—ABERCROMBY.

Field. Formerly sometimes equivalent to an estate ; but now land cleared for cultivation.

A goodly planted *field*,
In some parts thick of groves and woods, the rest rich crops
did yield.—CHAPMAN.

It is true his labour more than requited his entertainment, for he wrought amongst us with vigour, and either in the meadow or on the hayrick put himself forwards. Besides, he had always something amusing to say, that lessened our toil, and was at once so out of the way and yet so sensible, that I loved, laughed at, and pitied him. Our family dined in the *field*, and we sat, or rather reclined, round a temperate repast, while Mr. Burchel gave cheerfulness to the feast.—GOLDSMITH, *Vicar of Wakefield*.

Finance. Once meant a ransom, as well as wealth, or revenue.

With thy blood precious our *finance* thou didst pay,
And us redeemed from the Fiend's prey.—SKELTON.

It would, methinks, be no ill maxim of life, if, according to that ancestor of Sir Roger whom I lately mentioned, every man would point to himself, as to *finance*, what sum he would resolve not to exceed. This would be sailing by some compass, living with some design. But to be eternally bewildered in prospects of future gain, and putting on unnecessary armour against improbable blows of fortune, is a mechanical being which has not good sense for its direction.—ADDISON.

Flap. The motion of a pendulous body or substance. Hence, a blow.

Stryk, stryk hardelie, for now is time to thee !
With that, Symon a felon *flap* let flie.—SPENSER.

Where is the cheerful store-room, in whose hot window I used to sit and read Cowley, with the grass-plat before, and the hum and *flappings* of that one solitary wasp, that ever haunted it about me. It is in mine ears now, as oft as summer returns.
C. LAMB.

Fleet. Flowing, floating (*fluctuans*) ; and so, swift.

And full of balm is *fleeting* every mede.—CHAUCER.

Our sever'd navy too
Have knit again, and *fleet*, threat'ning most sea-like.
SHAKSPEARE, *Antony and Cleopatra*, iii. 11.

The second substitute for temperament is drill, the power of use and routine. The hack is a better roadster than the *fleet* arab : in chemistry, the galvanic stream, slow but continuous, is equal in power to the electric spark, and is in our arts a better agent. So in human action, against the spasm of energy we offset the continuity of drill, we spread the same amount of force over much time, instead of condensing it into a moment. 'Tis the same amount of gold, here in a ball, there in a leaf.—EMERSON.

Fluent. Flowing, applied to other things than words or speech. So *fluency* was used for a copious body of water.

And light winds quaintly fanned her *fluent* hair.—SANDYS.

He took a most unvalued bowl, in which none drank but he,
Nor he, but to the deities, nor any deity,
But for himself was served with that, and that he first did
cleanse

With sulphur, then with *fluencies* of sweetest water rene.

CHAPMAN, *Iliad*.

The Athenian of old. He was a legislator conversant with high questions of alliance, revenue, and war. He was a soldier trained under a liberal and generous discipline, he was a judge, compelled every day to weigh the effect of opposite arguments. These things were in themselves an education, an education eminently fitted, not indeed to form exact or profound thinkers, but to give quickness to the perceptions, delicacy to the taste, *fluency* to the expression, and politeness to the manners.—MACAULAY.

Foment. To warm, to cherish. Once applied more widely than now.

Which bruit was cunningly *fomented* by such as desired innovation.—BACON.

I shall be glad and diligent to entertain you with some novelties, even for some *fomentation* of our friendship, too soon interrupted in the cradle.—Sir HENRY WOTTON to Milton.

Mutual jealousy separated Agostino and Annibal Caracci. The learning and the philosophy of Agostino assisted the invention of the master genius Annibal. But Annibal was displeased at the more literary and poetical character of Agostino, and *fomented* his jealousy by his sarcastic humour. Alike great artists when once employed on the same work, Agostino was considered to have excelled his brother. Annibal broke with him, and their patron Cardinal Farnese was compelled to separate the brothers. Their fate is striking. Agostino divided from his brother sank into dejection and perished prematurely,

while Annibal closed his days not long after in a state of distraction.—I. DISRAELI.

Fond. Once, foolish, infatuated ; but the meaning is now often reduced to ordinary attachment.

Endowed with happiness
And immortality, that *fondly* lost,
This other served but to eternize woe,
Till I provided Death.—MILTON.

The women are true and tender, passionately attach'd to their husbands and children, even to *fondness*.—*State of England*, 1693.

‘The Traceys have always the wind in their faces.’ This is founded on a *fond* and false tradition which reporteth that ever since Sir W. Tracey was among the four knights which killed Thomas à Becket, this miraculous penance is imposed upon them.—RAY.

If I were to make a confession about my likings for literature, I should say that I was *fond* of fiction, that I did not dislike biography, that I could bear a good deal of poetry, and that I had that respectful admiration for history which is based upon a distant acquaintanceship, and not injured by over-familiarity.—Sir A. HELPS.

Footmen. An old word for ‘foot-soldiers.’

So that there should be two thousand *footmen* in every garrison.—SPENSER.

Godfrey arose, that day he laid aside
His hawberk strong he went to combat in,
And don'd a breastplate fair of proof untried,
Such one as *footmen* use, light, easy, thin.

FAIRFAX, *Tasso*.

It is now the fashion to place the Golden Age of England in times when noblemen were destitute of comforts, the want of which would be intolerable to a modern *footman*. When farmers and shopkeepers breakfasted on loaves, the very sight of which would raise a riot in a modern workhouse ; when to have

a clean shirt once a week was a privilege reserved for the highest classes of gentry alone.—MACAULAY.

Formal. Having the ordinary use of the senses, or the usual form and shape of body.

Why this is evident to any *formal* capacity.

SHAKSPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, ii. 5.

If not well,

Thou shouldst come like a Fury crown'd with snakes,

Not like a *formal* man.—Id., *Antony and Cleopatra*, ii. 5.

A *formal* young Quaker and Quakeress, perfect strangers to each other, and who might otherwise have sat mum-chance together for many hours, fell suddenly to romping, merely through the maiden's playfulness with Obadiah's terrier. The dog broke the ice of *formality*, and as a third person, took off the awkwardness of self-introduction.—T. HOOD.

Free. } Formerly had a meaning of kind,
Freedom. } frank, bounteous.

This song, I have heard say,
Was made of our blisful lady *fre*.

CHAUCER, *The Prioresses Tale*.

The spinsters and the knitters in the sun,
And the *free* maids that weave their threads with bones,
Do use to chant it.—SHAKSPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, ii. 4.

My lady is the very source and well
Of beauty, lust, *freedom*, and gentleness.—SPENSER.

Whose service is perfect *freedom*.—*Book of Common Prayer*.

That from which the public character of Milton derives its great and peculiar splendour still remains to be mentioned. If he exerted himself to overthrow a forsworn king and a persecuting hierarchy, he exerted himself in conjunction with others. But the glory of the battle which he fought for that species of *freedom* which is the most valuable, and which was then the least understood, the *freedom* of the human mind, is all his own.—MACAULAY.

Frequent. Numerous; an old and classical meaning.

As when of *frequent* bees
Swarms rise out of a rock.—CHAPMAN.

Society and conversation are the most powerful remedies for restoring the mind to its tranquillity, if at any time it has unfortunately lost it, as well as the best preservatives of that equal and happy temper which is so essential to self-satisfaction and enjoyment. Men of retirement and speculation, who are apt to sit brooding at home over either grief or resentment, though they may have *frequently* more humanity, more generosity and a nicer sense of honour, yet seldom possess that equality of temper which is so common among men of the world.—ADAM SMITH.

Fret. To eat, to prey upon; and so, to vex or wrong.

I saw how his houndes had him caught,
And *freten* him, for that they knew him naught.

CHAUCER.

I am constitutionally susceptible of noises. A carpenter's hammer in a warm summer noon will *fret* me with more than midsummer madness. But those unconnected unset sounds are nothing to the measured malice of music.—C. LAMB.

Frippery. An old-clothes shop : now, finery.

Enter Luke with shoes, garters, fans, and roses.

Here he comes, sweating all over;

He shows like a walking *frillery*.

MASSINGER, *City Madam*, i. 1.

The old-clothes shop of the present day will give a good notion of the sort of shop called a *Frippery* shop, in the time of the Plantagenets and Tudors.—*Old England*.

They looked so fresh, yet though I knew the thing could not be done, yet would I rather have imposed upon my fancy with thinking I had bought them new for the fellow, than that they had come out of the *Rue de Friperie*.—STERNE.

In 1691, the manufacturers of Spitalfields, of Norwich, of Yorkshire, and of Wiltshire considered the trade with the Eastern seas as rather injurious than beneficial to the kingdom.

The importation of Indian spices indeed was admitted to be harmless, and the importation of saltpetre to be necessary. But the importation of silks, and of Bengals, as shawls were then called, was pronounced to be a curse to the country. The effect of the growing taste for such *frippery* was that our gold and silver went abroad.—MACAULAY.

Fulfilled. Filled full.

In olde days of King Artour,
Of which that Britons spoken gret honour,
All was this land *fulfill'd* of Faerie :
The Elf Queene with her joly compaignie,
Danced ful oft in many a greene mede.—CHAUCER.

Ech valley shall be *fulfilled*, and every hill and little hill shall be made low.—WICLIF'S *Bible*, *Isaiah* xl.

That we may be *fulfilled* with Thy grace.—*Book of Common Prayer*.

The most ludicrous of all human objects is an Irishman ploughing, a gigantic figure, a seven-foot machine for turning potatoes into human nature, wrapt in an immense great coat, and urging on two starved ponies, with dreadful imprecations and uplifted shillala. The Irish crow discerns a coming perquisite, and is not inattentive to the proceedings of the steeds. The weeds seem to fall contentedly, knowing that they have *fulfilled* their destiny. The whole is a scene of idleness, laziness, and poverty.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Furniture. Not always limited, as in its modern meaning, to certain articles of use and ornament.

By a general conflagration, mankind shall be destroyed, with the form and all the *furniture* of the earth.—TILLOTSON.

And for the better *furniture* of this purpose, she had before travail'd with Spain, with France, and with the Pope.—*Letter of Mary Queen of Scots to Cecil*.

To make the past present, to bring the distant near, to place us in the society of a great man, or on the eminence which overlooks the field of a mighty battle, to call up our ancestors before

us, with all their peculiarities of language, manners, and garb, to show us over their houses, to treat us at their tables, to rummage their old-fashioned wardrobes, to explain the uses of their ponderous *furniture*, these parts of the duty which properly belong to the historian, have been appropriated by the historical novelist.—MACAULAY.

G.

Gad. To roam or wander about. Now only used with a sense of frivolity.

These nuns are of two sorts, the one regular, which are called recluse, and stir not abroad, the other called *gadding* nuns, of which I saw divers walk the streets.—J. GREENHALGH.

She wrecks her anger on her rival's head,
With furies frights her from her native home,
And sends her *gadding* round the world to roam.

DRYDEN.

Thee, shepherd, thee the woods and desert caves
With wild thyme and the *gadding* vine o'ergrown,
And all their echoes mourn.—MILTON, *Lycidas*.

Flie thee, poor pilgrim, to yon neighb'ring bower,
O'er which an old oak spreads his awful arm,
Mantled in brownest foliage, and beneath
The ivy, *gadding* from the untwisted stem,
Curtains each verdant side.—MASON, *Elfrida*.

Ye elders, be such in grave and pious carriage, whatsoever be your years; for young men may be so, and possibly grey hairs may have nothing under them but *gadishness* and folly many years old.—LEIGHTON.

Could any curtain lecture bring
To decency so fine a thing?
In short, by night, 'twas fits or fretting;
By day, 'twas *gadding* and coquetting.—GOLDSMITH.

I have a couple of nieces under my direction who so often run *gadding* abroad that I know not where to have them. Their dress, their tea, and their visits take up all their time, and they go to bed as tired of doing nothing as I am of quilting a whole petticoat.—*Spectator*.

Gallantry. Pageantry, splendour : now, except when used in connection with tournaments, &c., ‘courtesy.’

I went to Hyde Park, where was His Majesty and abundance of *gallantry* . . . infinite the crowd of people and the *gallantry* of the horsemen, noblemen, and citizens of all sorts.—SAMUEL PEPYS.

As these [the fair sex] compose half the world, and are by the just complaisance and *gallantry* of our nation the more powerful part of our people, I shall dedicate a considerable share of these my speculations to their service.—*Spectator*.

His [Milton’s] conception of love unites all the *gallantry* of the chivalric tournament with all the pure and quiet affection of an English fire-side. His poetry reminds us of the miracles of Alpine scenery. Nooks and dells, beautiful as fairyland, are embosomed in its most rugged and gigantic elevations. The roses and myrtles bloom unchilled on the verge of the avalanche.—MACAULAY.

Game. Amusement in general. Hence applied to the object pursued.

For when in sighs I spent the day
And would not cloak my grief with *game*.

Lord SURREY.

Under the infamous term ‘convict’ are comprehended crimes of the most different degrees and species of guilt. One man is transported for stealing three hams and a pot of sausages, and in the next berth to him on board the transport is a young surgeon who has been engaged in a mutiny at the Nore. Then comes a man who set his house on fire to cheat the Phoenix Office ; and lastly, the most glaring of all human villains, a poacher driven from Europe, wife and child, by thirty Lords of Manors

at the Quarter Sessions for killing a partridge and violating the *game* laws.—SYDNEY SMITH (1820).

Gammon. An old term for game. ‘Back-gammon’ means ‘the sending-back game.’

And that thou never in Eldridge come
To sport, *gamōn*, or play,
And that thou here give up thy aims,
Until thy dying day.—*Old Ballad*.

The quick dice,
In thunder leaping from the box, awake
The sounding *gammon*.—THOMSON.

Gape. To covet, a feeling still said to be indicated by widely opening the mouth.

Surely I would less esteem the loss of all my offices which are so *gaped* at, if I could thereby wipe out that malicious brand of slander.—ROBERT BEDE to Lord Burleigh¹.

I have heard of a gentleman who was a remarkable instance of singularity, he would thrust his head out of his chamber window every morning, and after having *gaped* for fresh air for about half an hour repeat fifty verses out of Homer as loud as he could bawl them.—ADDISON.

Garble. Originally, to sift or sort; and so, to mutilate.

The understanding works to collate, combine and *garble* the images and ideas, the imagination or memory present to it.—CHEYNE.

The right Turkey berry well *garbled*, three shillings per pound; the *ungarbled* for less.—*Mercurius*, 1662.

We love to read the great productions of the human mind as they were written. . . . Many errors have been detected by writers of this generation. In the speculations of Adam Smith

¹ Robert Bede carried down the commission for the execution of Mary Queen of Scots.

a short cut has been made at much knowledge at which Sir Isaac Newton arrived through arduous and circuitous paths, yet we still look with peculiar veneration on the 'Wealth of Nations' and on the 'Principia,' and should regret to see either of those great works *garbled*, even by the ablest hands. What man of taste and feeling can endure to see harmonies, abridgments, expurgated editions?—MACAULAY.

The truth is that the notion that it is a Breach of Privilege to publish a Parliamentary debate is obsolete. The order forbidding the publication of evidence before a Select Committee is in the same position. No appeal has been made to it for nearly a generation; it is constantly disregarded, and it must be supposed to be kept among the Standing Orders as a means of correcting a *garbled* or false report.—*The Times*, April 14th, 1875.

Garland. Once used for little miscellanies of songs or prose. It was also a name for a royal crown.

The *garland* Robert tok, that whilom was the right,
The lond for to loke, in signe of kynge's myght.

R. BRUNNE.

The golden *garland* of Princely delight.
The Shepherd's *garland* of Love.
The Lover's *garland*.—PERCY.

What are *garlands* and crowns to the brow that is wrinkled?
'Tis but the dead flower with May-dew besprinkled;
Then away with all such from the head that is hoary,
What care I for wreaths that can only bring glory?

BYRON.

Garter. Properly, girdle, or girding: now only for the knee.

The habit of the Knights Companions was for a long time chiefly distinguished by its colour (blue), and by embroidered *garters* over the mantle, tunic, and hood.—*Old England*.

Knights of the Garter. King Edward the Third gave his *garter* for the signal of battle, and being victorious on sea and land, and having David king of Scotland a prisoner, he in

memory of these exploits is said to have constituted this order.—
HAYDN.

A vulgar story prevails, but is not supported by any ancient authority, that at a Court ball Edward's mistress, commonly supposed to be the Countess of Salisbury, dropped her *garter*; and the king taking it up, observed some of the courtiers to smile, as if they thought that he had not obtained this favour merely by accident; upon which he called out *Honi soit qui mal y pense* (Evil to him that evil thinks).—HUME, *Hist. of England*, Edw. III. (1349).

Gaudy. Not always applied to colour and appearance, as now. The festivities held to celebrate the anniversary of Magdalen College, Oxford, and others, are known as '*The Gaudy*.'

Let's have one other *gaudy* night : call to me
All my sad captains ; fill our bowls once more ;
Let's mock the midnight bell.

SHAKESPEARE, *Antony and Cleopatra*, iii. 11.

And in twenty places mo than there
Where they make revell and *gaudy* chere,
With fyll the pot fyll, and go fyll me the can,
Here is my penny, and I am a gentelman.

Heyway to the Spital House.

In truth Mr. Sheridan's taste was very far from being chaste or even moderately correct; he delighted in *gaudy* figures, he was attracted by glare, and cared not whether the brilliancy came from tinsel or gold, from the broken glass or the pure diamond. He overlaid his thoughts with epigrammatic diction, 'he played to the galleries,' and indulged them, of course, with an endless succession of clap-traps.—BROUGHAM.

Gazette. Originally, a small Venetian coin, and so applied to a paper of news, because sold for that amount.

What monstrous and most painefulle circumstance,
To have to get some three or four *gazets*,
Some threepence i' th' whole, for that 'twill come to.

B. JONSON.

The next *gazette* mentioned that the king had pardoned him [the Duke of Monmouth].—BURNET (1684).

Concentration is the secret of strength in politics, war, in trade, in short in all management of human affairs. 'I hope,' said a good man to Rothschild, 'your children are not too fond of money and business; I am sure you would not like that.' 'I'm sure I should like that. I wish them to give mind, soul, heart, and body to business—that is the way to be happy. It requires a great deal of boldness and a great deal of caution to make a fortune; and when you have got it, it requires ten times as much wit to keep it. Stick to one business, young man; stick to your brewery,' (he said this to Buxton,) 'and you will be the great brewer of London: the brewer, and banker, and merchant, and you will soon be in the *Gazette*.'—EMERSON.

Gear. Used by the old poets for strange fashions.

And *gerg* Venus full of new-fangleness.—GOWER.

Into a studie he fell sodainely

As don these lovers in hir quaint *geres*.—CHAUCER.

But what were the swaddling clothes in which she laid the King of Heaven and Earth? No doubt it was poor *gear*; peradventure it was the kerchief which she took from her head.—LATIMER.

General. Used by Shakspeare for 'the public.'

The play, I remember, pleased not the million; it was caviare to the *general*.—SHAKSPEARE, *Hamlet*, ii. 2.

I am of a constitution so *general* that it consorts and sympathises with all things. I have no antipathy or idiosyncrasy in anything. Those natural repugnancies do not touch me; nor do I behold with prejudice the French, Italian, Spanish, or Dutch.—Dr. BROWNE.

Generosity. Once, rank, noble birth.

To break the heart of *generosity*,

And make bold power look pale.

SHAKSPEARE, *Coriolanus*, i. 1.

Twice have the trumpets sounded ;
The *generous* and gravest citizens
Have hent the gates.

SHAKSPEARE, *Measure for Measure*, iv. 6.

To speak the truth with some austerity, to live with some rigour of temperance, or some extremes of *generosity*, seems to be a practice which common good nature would appoint to those who are at ease and in plenty, in sign that they feel a brotherhood with the great multitude of suffering men.—EMERSON.

Brilliant eras in literature generally succeed those of great public danger. This is generally the case after a great national struggle. The energy and talent developed during its continuance by the urgency of the public danger is directed on their termination to pacific objects. Literature then assumes its noblest character, and is directed to its most elevated objects, for general have superseded individual desires, and the selfish are extinguished by the *generous*.—ALISON.

Ghost. At one time equivalent to mind, or spirit.

As well in body as *ghost*, chaste was shee.—CHAUCER.

Her *ghost* was ever in playne humility.—Id.

Me shal the *ghost* within my hearte stent

To love you best with all my true intent.—Id.

Dr. Johnson once said, half-jestingly we suppose, that for six months he refused to credit the fact of the earthquake at Lisbon, and that he still believed it to be greatly exaggerated. Yet he related with a grave face how old Mr. Cave of St. John's Gate saw a *ghost*, and how the *ghost* was somewhat of a shadowy being.—MACAULAY.

Gift. Sometimes had a bad sense, as a bribe.

In whose hands is wickedness : and their right hand is full of *gifts*.—*Prayer Book*, *Psalm* xxvi. 10.

They talk about happiness being meted out to men in equal portions, but think of the difference between the man who has the *gift* of always hearing pleasant things said about him behind

his back, and the man who has the disease of always listening to ill-natured things said about himself in his absence. In neither case do I mean that these are real utterances, but by the aid of fancy we hear a great deal about ourselves that has never been spoken by mortal tongue.—Sir A. HELPS.

Glad. } Occurs in Chaucer as equivalent to
Gladder. } 'cheerful.' *Gladder* is, of course, a
lost word.

Some very red, and some a *glad* light green.—CHAUCER.

Fayrest of fayre, O lady mine Venus,
Daughter of Jove, and spouse of Vulcanus,
Thou *glader* of the mount of Citheron.—Id.

It is pleasanter to see them [players], even in their own persons, than any of the three learned professions. We feel more respect for John Kemble in a plain coat, than for the Lord Chancellor on the Woolsack. He is surrounded, to our eyes, with a greater number of imposing recollections; he is a more reverend piece of formality, a more complicated tissue of costumes: we see in him a more stately hieroglyphic of humanity. In Garrick we see one who *gladdened* life, and whose death 'eclipsed the gaiety of nations.'—HAZLITT.

Go. Once, to *walk*, as opposed to riding or running.

The other where him list may ride or *go*
But seen his lady shal he never mo.—CHAUCER.

Ride more than thou *goest*.

SHAKESPEARE, *King Lear*, i. 4.

I grant I never saw a Goddess *go*;
My mistress when she walks treads on the ground.

FLETCHER.

One while the little foot-page *went*,
Another while he ran.—*Old Ballad*.

I told you in my last a good deal about old Somerset's will. They have since found a hundred and fifty thousand pounds

which *goes* between the two daughters. It had been feared he would leave nothing to the youngest. Two or three years ago he waked after dinner and found himself upon the floor. She used to watch him, had left him, and he had fallen from his couch. He forbade anybody to speak to her, and yet to treat her with respect as his daughter. She went about the house for a year without anybody daring openly to utter a syllable to her, and it was never known that he had forgiven her. His whole stupid life was a series of pride and tyranny.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Gossip. Properly a sponsor for a child in baptism, and still used in this sense among the peasantry.

To the God-mothers of Queen Elizabeth.

My noble *gossips*, ye have been too prodigal ;
I thank ye heartily : so shall this Lady,
When she has so much English.

SHAKESPEARE, *Henry VIII*, v. 4.

The duke, my husband, and my children both,
And you the calendars of their nativity,
Go to a *Gossips'* feast, and go with me.

Id., *Comedy of Errors*, v. 1.

One mother, when as her foolehardy child
Did come too neare and with his talants play,
Half dead through feare her little babe revyl'd,
And to her *gossibs* gan in counsell say.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, i. 12.

At the christening of George Duke of Clarence, he made both the Earl of Kildare and the Earl of Ormond his *gossips*.—DAVIES' *Ireland*.

After the labours of the print-shop and auction-room he unbent his mind in the House of Commons, and having indulged in the recreation of making laws and voting millions he returned to more important pursuits—to researches after Queen Mary's comb, Wolsey's red hat, and the spur which King William struck into the flank of Sorrel. While he was fetching and carrying the *gossip* of Kensington Palace he fancied that he was engaged in politics, and when he recorded that *gossip* he fancied he was writing history.—MACAULAY.

Grass. A plant.

The Planets.

And sondrily to every one
A *grass* belongeth, and a stone.—GOWER.

I think myself monstrously well clear of London and its intrigues. I look round my green fields and recollect I have little to do but

To make my *grass* mow,
And my apple-tree grow.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Grave. Old meaning, like 'ingrave,' to bury.

Unto the hound, unto the raven,
Shee was none otherwise i-*graven*.—GOWER.

I hope I shall die in quiet with *nunc dimittis*—which I cannot do without I see some glimpse of your following after my *graved* bones.—QUEEN ELIZABETH.

There is the primal contract and bond of society, not *graven* on stone, nor sealed with wax, not put down on parchment, not to be repeated by any authority, not invalidated by being omitted in any code, inasmuch as from thence are all codes and all authority—the law of self-preservation.—MACAULAY.

Gravity. At one time equivalent to wisdom.

There is not a white hair on your face, but should have his effect of *gravity*.—SHAKESPEARE, 2 *Henry IV*, i. 2.

In some persons *gravity* is most necessary, in Magistrates and Ministers. God alone is the giver of true *gravity*.—FULLER.

We will venture to expand the sense of Mr. Hallam and to comment on it thus. If we consider Cranmer merely as a statesman, he will not appear a much worse man than Wolsey, Gardiner, Cromwell or Somerset; but when an attempt is made to set him up as a *Saint*, it is scarcely possible for any man of sense well to preserve his *gravity*.—MACAULAY.

Groom. There is some doubt as to the history of this word, but it seems generally to denote care,

attendance, custody, whether of a bride, a horse, garments, or chambers. Some authorities trace it to the Dutch word *Grom*, a boy or youth, in which sense it seems to have been used in the two following passages.

On Æolus, the God of windes,
To blowen out of alle kindes,
So loudé that he should y-drench
Lorde and Lady, and *grome* and wench.—CHAUCER.

That I presume for to entreat this *groom*
And seemly maid from danger to redeem,
Condemned to burn by your impartial doom.—FAIRFAX.

English Clergy of the 17th Century. The coarse and ignorant Squire who thought that it belonged to his dignity to have grace said every day by an ecclesiastic in full canonicals, found means to reconcile dignity with economy. A young Levite (such was the phrase then in use) might be had for his board, a small garret and ten pounds a year, and might not only perform his own professional functions, might not only be always ready in fine weather for bowls and in rainy weather for shovel board, but might also save the expense of a gardener or a *groom*. Sometimes the reverend man nailed up the apricots, and sometimes he curried the coach-horses.—MACAULAY.

Grope. To grasp, to handle.

These Curates ben so negligent and slow
To *gropen* tenderly a conscience.—CHAUCER.

Teach your Grand-dame to *grope* her ducks.—*Proverb.*

A young man alive at this period hardly knows to what improvement of human life he has been introduced. Gas was unknown. I *groped* about the streets of London in all but the utter darkness of a twinkling oil-lamp under the protection of watch-men in their grand climacteric. I had no umbrella, they were little used and very dear. The basket of stage coaches in which luggage was carried had no springs, and your clothes were rubbed all to pieces, and even in the best society one third of the gentlemen were always drunk.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Gross. Large, great.

The crows and choughs that wing the midway air
Show not so *gross* as beetles.

SHAKSPEARE, *King Lear*, iv. 6.

Printing a *gross* invention, artillery a thing that lay not far out of the way, the needle a thing partly known before, what a change have these three made in the world! The one in state of learning, the other in state of war, the third in state of treasure, commodities and navigation!—BACON.

Time advances, facts accumulate, doubts arise, the highest intellects like the tops of mountains are the first to touch and reflect the dawn. They are bright whilst the level below is still in darkness, but soon the light which at first illuminated only the loftiest eminences descends on the plain and penetrates to the deepest valley. First come hints, then fragments of systems, then systems, then defective systems, then complete and harmonious systems: thus the great progress goes on, till school-boys laugh at the jargon which imposed on Bacon. We believe that we are wiser than our ancestors, we believe also that our posterity will be wiser than we, it would be *gross* injustice in our grand-children to talk of us with contempt merely because they may have surpassed us.—MACAULAY.

Gruff. Once applied to a bodily movement (e. g. to a rough or heavy fall) as well as to the voice and looks.

And *gruff* he fell adown unto the ground.—CHAUCER.

The Amazons. The girls of quality from six to twelve were put to schools where they learned to box and play at cudgels, so that nothing was more usual than to see a little miss returning home with a broken pate, and two or three teeth knocked out. No woman was to be married till she had killed her man. The ladies of fashion used to wrestle and pitch the bar, they had no titles among them but such as denoted some bodily strength or perfection: one would be called the tall, and one the *gruff*. Their public debates were generally managed with cuffs and kicks, insomuch that they often came home from the Council with broken shins and black eyes.—ADDISON.

H.

Habit. The old application of this word to dress, is still retained in 'riding-habit.'

The Hague. The women, many of them very pretty and in good *habits*, fashionable, and black spots.—SAMUEL PEPYS.

He has all his life dressed very well, and remembers *habits* as others do men.—*Spectator*.

Every class of men of genius has distinct *habits*. All poets resemble each other, as do all painters and mathematicians; there is a conformity in the cast of their minds. The poetical eye is early busied with imagery, and its reveries with passions. As early will the painter's hand be copying forms and colours, the young musician's ear will wander in the creation of sounds, and the philosopher's head will mature its meditations.—I. DISRAELI.

Hair. Equivalent to character, texture.

The quality and *hair* of our attempt
Brooks no division.—SHAKESPEARE, I *Henry IV*, iv. 1.

A lady of my *hair* cannot want pitying.
BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Nice Valour*,

A woman who sought to flatter the Mahometan saint Haudji began to praise his *hair*, his beard, his eye-brows and eye-lashes. The saint retired into a corner and prayed to God that he might be deprived of all these beauties which had produced so ill an effect, and become uglified. When he returned there was neither hair on his head or face, brows or eyelids, and the woman trembling at his portentous ugliness, desired her maidens to turn him out of doors.—SOUTHEY.

Half. Once a portion that might be more or less than a division into two equal parts.

And thus to look on every *half*
Men sene the sore withouten salve.—CHAUCER.

And the *halfe*, which was the part of them that went out to war, was three hundred thousande.—*Bible* (1551).

Cowper said, forty or fifty years ago, that he dared not name John Bunyan in his verse without fear of moving a sneer. We live in better times, and are not afraid to say that though there were many clever men in England during the latter *half* of the seventeenth century, there were only two great creative minds; one of these minds produced the 'Paradise Lost,' the other the 'Pilgrim's Progress.'—MACAULAY.

Handful. Used at one time for the measure of three inches across the hand.

Here stalks me by a proud and spangled Sir,
That looks three *handfuls* prouder than his foretop.
B. JONSON, *Cynthia's Revels*, iii. 4.

The only champion that Philistia hath,
The huge Colossus, than six cubits height
More by a *handful*.—DRAYTON, *David and Goliath*.

Pot-pourri. Put into a large china jar the following ingredients in layers: two *handfuls* of lavender flowers, half a *handful* of rosemary flowers, bay and laurel leaves, half a *handful* of knotted marjoram and two *handfuls* of Balm of Gilead. When the pot is uncovered, the perfume is very fine.—MRS. RUNDELL.

Handsome. Once, convenient, handy, as well as beautiful to the eye.

A cloak for a thief is so *handsome* as it may seem it was first invented for him, for under it he may cleanly convey any fit pillage that cometh *handsomely* in his way.—SPENSER.

The course of succession in Ashantee is the brother, the sister's son, the son of the chief slave. The King's sisters may marry whom they please, provided he is very strong and *handsome*, and these elevated and excellent women are always ready to set an example of submission to the laws of their country.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Happily. Formerly equivalent to haply, perhaps.

Besides old Gremio is harkening still,
And *happily* we might be interrupted.

SHAKSPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, iv. 4.

But *happily* that gentleman had business;
His face betrays my judgment, if he be
Not much in progress.—*Queen of Arragon*, ix. 440.

All beauty warms the heart, is a sign of health, prosperity and the favour of God. *Happily* everything lasting and fit for man the Divine Power has marked with this stamp. What delights, what emancipates, not what scares and pains us, is wise and good in speech and the arts; for truly the heart at the centre of the universe with every throb hurls the flood of happiness into every artery, vein and veinlet, so that the whole system is inundated with the tides of joy. The plenty of the poorest place is too great, the harvest cannot be gathered, every sound ends in music, the edge of every surface is tinged with prismatic rays.—EMERSON.

Harness. Once used for 'armour.'

Let not him that girdeth on his *harness* boast himself as he that putteth it off.—*Authorised Version*, 1 *Kings* xx. 11.

Come wind, come wrack!

At least we'll die with *harness* on our back.

SHAKSPEARE, *Macbeth*, v. 5.

Travelling. People are free for the time from the trammels of their business, profession or calling, the marks of the *harness* begin to wear out, and altogether they talk more like men than slaves with their several functions hanging like collars round their necks. The variety in language, dress, behaviour, religious ceremonies, lays hold of them and takes them out of the wheel-tracks of their every day cares.—Sir A. HELPS.

Haunt. Used by Chaucer for 'practice,' 'practical skill.'

Of cloth making shee had such a *haunt*.—CHAUCER.

My friend Sir Roger has often told me that on his first coming

to his estate he found three parts of his house shut up, that the best room in it had the reputation of being *haunted*, that noises had been heard in the long gallery, that the door of one of his chambers had been nailed up, because the butler had formerly hanged himself in it, his mother likewise having shut up all the rooms in the house in which any member of the family had died. Upon the death of this lady he ordered the chaplain to exorcise the apartments, and to lie in each room one after the other, and by that means to dissipate the fears which had so long reigned in the family.—ADDISON.

If the youth of genius is apt to retire from the ordinary sports of his mates, he will often substitute others, the reflections of those favourite studies which are *haunting* his young imagination. Sir William Jones, at Harrow, divided the fields according to a map of Greece, and to each schoolfellow portioned out a dominion, and when wanting a copy of the 'Tempest' to act from, he supplied it from memory.—I. DISRAELI.

Health. Safety, spiritual or temporal.

Urge me no more ; I shall forget myself ;

Have mind upon your *health* ; tempt me no further.

SHAKESPEARE, *Julius Cæsar*, iv. 3.

Why hast thou forsaken me, and art so far from my *health* and from the words of my complaint ?—*Prayer Book, Psalm xxii. 1.*

The Convalescent. Farewell for him all that made sickness pompous, the spell that hushed the household, the desert-like stillness felt throughout its inmost chambers, the inquiry by looks, the still softer delicacies of self-attention, the sole and single eye of distemper alonely fixed upon itself, world thoughts excluded, the man a world unto himself. In this flat swamp of convalescence, left by the ebb of sickness, a man is still yet far enough from the *terra firma* of established *health*.—C. LAMB.

Hearse. Minshew says, *hearse* is a monument, or empty tomb, set up for the honourable memory of the dead.

Underneath this mournful *hearse*,

Lies the subject of all verse.—BEN JONSON.

Rebel Lords. As the clock struck ten they came forth. Lord

Kilmarnock all in black, his hair unpowdered and in a bag, supported by Forster, the great Presbyterian, and by Mr. Horne, a young clergyman, his friend. Lord Balmerino followed alone in a blue coat turned up with red (his rebellious regimentals), a flannel waistcoat, and his shroud beneath, their *hearses* following.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Herd. Formerly a tender of cattle, as well as the flock kept. The old meaning still appears in the compounds 'cow-herd,' 'swine-herd,' &c.

And ever more his speech he did apply
To th' *herds*, but meant them to the Damsel's fantasie.

SPENSER.

Thou praisest Hilpa's beauty, but art thou not secretly enamoured with the verdure of her meadows? Art thou not more affected with the prospect of her green valleys than thou wouldest be with the sight of her person? The lowing of my *herds* and the bleatings of my flocks make a pleasant echo in thy mountain and sound sweetly in thy ears.—ADDISON.

Hope. Once used in the meaning of confident expectation or assurance; now, always with a sense of uncertainty.

I *hope* I shall be hanged to-morrow.

Ballad, Tanner of Tamworth.

I cannot *hope*

Cæsar and Antony shall well greet together.

SHAKESPEARE, *Antony and Cleopatra*, ii. 1.

Hope is the encouragement given to desire: the pleasing expectancy that its object shall be obtained.—COGAN, *On the Passions*, ii. 3.

My mind, I own, misgives me about Peel; I *hope* everything from his capacity, and dread everything from his character.—*Greville Memoirs* (1834).

Homely. Domestic; and so, simple.

No worse pestilence
Than *homely* foe.—GOWER.

Home is home, be it never so *homely*.—*Proverb*.

Horrid. Rough, rugged ; and so, dreadful. The secondary meaning only now survives.

Their jolly notes they chanted loud and clear
On merry morning at the mass divine,
And *horrid* helms high on their heads they bear,
When their fierce courage they to war incline.

FAIRFAX, *Tasso*.

Horrid with fern, and intricate with thorn,
Few paths of human feet, or tracts of beast were worn.

DRYDEN.

And where the land slopes to its wat'ry bourn,
Wide yawns a gulf beside a rugged thorn,
Bricks line the sides but shiver'd long ago,
And *horrid* brambles intertwine below.—COWPER.

Here is a *horrid* business of the Duke de Berri ! It was first told me yesterday by Count Itterburg (i. e. Prince Gustavus of Sweden, son of the ex-King), who comes to see me very often. No fairy tale can match the extravagance of such a tale, being told to a private Scotch gentleman by such a narrator, his own grandfather having perished in the same manner.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Host. To 'host' once meant both to receive as a host and to abide as a guest.

And them amongst the wicked lotus grew,
Wicked, for holding guilefully away
Ulysses' men, who wrapt in sweetness now
Taking to *host* it, quite from him did stray.—SPENSER.

It by no means follows that we are unfit for society because *soirées* are tedious, and because the *host* finds us tedious. A cold sluggish blood thinks it has not facts enough to the purpose, and must decline its turn in the conversation. 'Tis not new facts that avail, but the heat to dissolve those of others ; the capital defect of cold, arid natures is the want of animal spirits ; they seem a power incredible ! Bacon said of manners, 'To obtain them it only needs not to despise them ;' as for behaviour men learn it as they take diseases one of another.—EMERSON.

Hound. At one time used for any kind of dog.

For so my daughter prophetess
Forthwith her little *hounde's* death
Betokeneth.—GOWER.

Flitting to Abbotsford. The neighbours have been much delighted with the procession of my furniture, in which old swords, bows, targets, and lances made a very conspicuous show. A family of turkeys were accommodated within the helmet of some *preux Chevalier* of ancient border fame. This caravan was attended by a multitude of ragged rosy children, carrying fishing-rods and spears, and leading ponies, *grey-hounds*, and spaniels. As it crossed the Tweed it furnished no bad subject for the pencil, and really reminded me of the gipsy groups of Callot upon their march.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Hours. Used by Spenser and others for 'prayers,' so called from being uttered at stated hours.

Full angelic the birdis sang their *houris*
Within their curtains greene into their bouris,
Apparelyt with white and red, with blumes sweet.

DUNBAR.

By they came here it was so very late,
Houris was rung and closed was the gate.—Id.

Quakers' Meeting. More frequently the Meeting is broken up without a word having been spoken, but the mind has been fed. You go away with a sermon not made with hands; you have been in the milder caverns of Trophonius, as in some den where that fiercest and savagest of all wild creatures, the tongue, that unruly member, has strangely lain tied up and captive. O, when the spirit is sore fretted, what a balm and solace it is to go and seat yourself for a quiet half-hour among the gentle Quakers!—EMERSON.

Humanity. Once conveyed a sense of politeness, or civility, as well as kindness.

I dined with my Lord Treasurer at Southampton House,

where his Lordship used me with singular *humanity*.—JOHN EVELYN.

Lucas Holstenius, keeper of the Vatican Library, received him [Milton] with the greatest *humanity*, and shewed him all the Greek authors.—NEWTON'S *Life of Milton*.

Poor Laws. A great part of the evils of the Poor-laws has been occasioned by the large powers entrusted to individual Justices. Everybody is full of *humanity* and good-nature when he can relieve misfortune by putting his hand into his neighbour's pocket. Who can bear to see a fellow creature suffering pain and poverty, when he can order other fellow creatures to relieve him? Is it in human nature, that A should see B in tears and not order C to assist him? Such a power must be liable to every degree of abuse; and as soon as the power of ordering relief can be taken out of the hands of magistrates, the sooner shall we begin to experience some mitigation of the evils of the Poor-laws.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Husband. Formerly equivalent to 'husbandman,' and also an 'administrator' of state or private affairs.

Nay, some very good *husbands* do suspect that the gathering up of flints in flinty ground, and laying them up in heaps, is no good husbandry, for that they would keep the ground warm.—BACON.

I was never in nineteen years' service chidden by your Majesty, but, contrariwise, often overjoyed when your Majesty would sometimes say that I was a good *husband* for you, though never for myself.—Id., to James I.

For *husband's* life is labourous and hard.

SPENSER, *Mother Hubbard's Tale*.

A certain Sir William Scott was ill-advised enough to plunder the estate of his neighbour. The marauder was defeated, seized, and brought in fetters to the Castle of Elibank. The Lady Murray inquired of her *husband* what he meant to do with the prisoner. 'Hang the robber, assuredly,' was the answer. 'What! hang the handsome young Knight of Harden, when you have three ill-favoured daughters unmarried? No,

no; we'll force him to marry our Meg.' Sir Gideon, like a good *husband* and tender father, entered into his wife's sentiments.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

I.

Idiot. Properly (in accordance with its Greek origin) a private person, as opposed to one holding public office; and so it came to mean an ignorant person, and finally, one destitute of common sense.

Humility is a virtue in great ones, the same as in *idiots*.—J. TAYLOR.

A man is look'd upon as bereft of common sense, that gives credit to the relations of party writers; nay, his own friends shake their heads at him, and consider him in no other light than as an officious tool or a well-meaning *idiot*.—ADDISON.

Idle. Barren.

Wherein of antres vast and deserts *idle*,
Rough quarries, rocks, and hills whose heads touch heaven,
It was my hint to speak.—SHAKESPEARE, *Othello*, i. 3.

Dr. Johnson. He was not much moved by the spectacle of Lady Tavistock dying for the loss of her Lord. Such grief he considered as a luxury for the *idle* and the wealthy. 'A washer-woman with nine small children would not have sobbed herself to death.'—MACAULAY.

Ill-temper. Of delicate temperament,—a meaning now lost.

Put on a half-shirt first this summer, it being very hot, and yet so *ill-tempered* am I grown that I am afraid that I shall catch cold, while all the world is afraid to melt away. . . . I find with great delight that I am come to my *good-temper* of business again. God continue me in it.—SAMUEL PEPYS.

There is in the Appendix, besides these narrations, a fierce attack upon Burnet, which is full of inaccuracies and *ill-temper*.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Imagine. Once, to plot, compass, devise.

To *imagine* the death of the King.—*Statute of Treason*.

When you have numbered seventeen dozen you will not have exceeded the number [of foreigners visiting Strawberry Hill]. Nanny's cap stood on end! I *imagined* the 100,000 that the Convention had decreed were to come over in balloons, as they formerly intended. The little parlour would not hold them, the green closet less, the star chamber still less, and the poor cabinet! I trembled, and so did Nanny. She came running to me, and said, 'Well, they have broke nothing.' Recollect that these seventeen dozen have passed the whole summer at Richmond, and might have come in detail.—HORACE WALPOLE to Miss Berry.

Imp. A Welsh or Danish word, which formerly meant the shoot of a plant, or offspring of any kind; 'also,' says Nares, 'a feather inserted into a wing; and, lastly, a small or inferior devil: in which last sense alone it is not obsolete. Lord Cromwell, in his last letter to Henry VIII, prays for the *imp*, his son.'

The heavens thee guard and keep, most royal *imp* of fame.

SHAKSPEARE, 2 *Henry IV*, v. 5.

And these weak *imps*, replanted by thy might,

What guerdon can I give thee for thy pains?—SPENSER.

Overgrown trees too much shade the subjacent plants and young *imps*.—JOHN EVELYN.

I was never a dunce, nor thought to be so, but an incorrigible, idle *imp*, who was always longing to do something else than what was enjoined me.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Impartial. Seems to be used in the following passage for 'unkind.'

Cruel, unjust, *impartial* destinies,

Why to this day have you preserved my life ?

SHAKSPEARE, *Romeo and Juliet*.

The Chancellor called on me yesterday about getting young Disraeli into Parliament (through the means of George Bentinck) for Lynn. I had told him George wanted a good man to assist in turning out William Lennox, and he suggested the above-named gentleman, whom he called a friend of Chandos. His political principles must, however, be in abeyance, for he said that Durham was doing all he could to get him the offer of a seat, and so forth ; if, therefore, he is undecided and wavering between Chandos and Durham, he must be a mighty *impartial* personage. I don't think such a man will do, though just such as Lyndhurst would be connected with.—*Greville Memoirs*, Dec. 6, 1834.

Impeach. Originally, to hinder ; and so, to arraign, accuse. 'Impeachment of waste' is a familiar legal expression.

Nangle Blockhouse East never was finished, and was begun *temp.* Hen. 8th for to *impeach* the entrance into the Harbour.—*History of Pembroke*.

I do not seek him now ;

But could be willing to march on to Calais

Without *impeachment*.—SHAKSPEARE, *Henry V*, iii. 6.

I have been in Town a day or two, and heard no conversation but about Maclean, a fashionable highwayman, who is just taken, and who robbed me, among others. He had only one companion, named Plunkett, a journeyman apothecary, whom he has *impeached*, and who is not taken.—Lord DOVER.

Impertinent. Frivolous, unbecoming ; and so, rude, saucy.

To church again, where we heard an Oxford man give us a most *impertinent* sermon upon 'Cast your bread upon the waters.'—SAMUEL PEPYS.

But when the pleasant *impertinent* of Comedy worries the studious man, by taking up his leisure, or making his house his

home, the sort of contempt expressed, however natural, would destroy the balance of delight in the spectators. To make the intrusion comic, the actor who plays the annoyed man must a little desert nature; he must, in short, be thinking of the audience, and express only so much dissatisfaction and peevishness as is consistent with the pleasure of Comedy.—C. LAMB.

Implicit. Entangled, enfolded : now, entire, unrestricted.

In his woolly fleece
I cling *implicit*.—POPE.

The humble shrub
And bush in the frizzled hair *implicit*.—THOMSON.

Of the two eminent engineers in the recent construction of railways in England, Mr. Brunel went straight from terminus to terminus, through mountains, over streams, crossing highways, cutting Ducal estates in two, and shooting through this man's cellar and that man's attic window, and so arriving at his end. Mr. Stephenson, on the contrary, believing that the river knows the way, followed his valley as *implicitly* as our Western railway follows the river, and turned out to be the safest and cheapest engineer.—EMERSON.

ImPLY. To enfold, interweave : now, to involve as a consequence, to mean.

And Phœbus, flying so most shameful sight,
His blushing face in foggy cloud *implies*.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, i. 4.

Because the needle-pointed lace, with which his helm was
tied

Beneath his chin, and so about his dainty throat *implied*,
Had strangled him.—CHAPMAN.

The desire of pleasing makes a man agreeable or unwelcome according to the motive from which that inclination appears to flow. If your concern for pleasing others arises from innate benevolence, it never fails of success; if from a vanity to excel, its disappointment is no less certain. What we *imply* by an agreeable man, is he who is endowed with the natural bent to do

acceptable things, and the affectation of that character is what constitutes a fop.—STEELE.

Important. Used by Shakspeare and Spenser as 'importunate.'

Great France

My mourning and *important* tears have pitied.

SHAKSPEARE, *King Lear*, iv. 4.

Maria writ

The letter at Sir Toby's great *importance*,

In recompense whereof he hath married her.

Id., *Twelfth Night*, v. 1.

And with *important* courage him assail'd.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, ii. 6.

Pope. We now come to the most *important* name on the list, the highest among the poets, the highest among the English wits, with whom we have to rank him. If the author of the *Dunciad* be not a humourist,—if the poet of the Rape of the Lock be not a wit,—who deserves to be called so? Besides that brilliant genius and immense fame, for both of which we should respect him, men of letters should admire him as being the greatest literary artist that England has seen.—THACKERAY.

Improve. The meaning to 'disprove' is now lost.

Though the Prophet Jeremy was unjustly accused, yet doth not that *improve* anything I have said.—WHITGIFT.

Duke of Modena. His appearance is rather better than it used to be, for instead of wearing his wig down to his nose to hide a redness in his face, he has taken to paint his forehead white, which, however, with the large quantity of red which he always wears on the rest of his face, does not *improve* him. I cannot say his manner is more polished. Princess Emily commended his diamonds; he said, '*Les vôtres sont bien petits.*' As I had been graciously received at his Court, I went into his box at the Opera; the first thing he did was to fall asleep, but as I did not choose to sit waiting his '*réveil*,' in the face of the whole theatre, I waked him, and would discourse with him; but here

I was very unlucky, for of the two persons I could recollect at his Court one has been dead these four years, and the other, he could not remember any such man.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Incense. Old meaning, to offer up, to kindle : now, to provoke, enrage.

The good, if any be, is due to be *incensed* to the honour first of the divine Majesty, and next of your Majesty.—BACON.

Twelve Trojan Princes wait on thee, and labour to *incense* Thy glorious heap of fame.—CHAPMAN.

Battle of Angels. It required great pregnancy of invention and strength of imagination to fill this battle with such circumstances as should raise and astonish the mind of the reader, and at the same time furnish an exactness of judgment to avoid every thing that might appear light or trivial. Those who look into Homer are surprised to find his battles still rising one above another and improving in horror to the conclusion of the Iliad. Milton's Fight of Angels is wrought up with the same beauty, it is ushered in with such signs of wrath as is suitable to omnipotence *incensed*.—ADDISON.

Include. Once, to enclose.

Went to see Mr. Elias Ashmole's library ; he showed me a toad *included* in amber.—JOHN EVELYN.

Fashionable folks idly think that every pleasure in life is *included* in their circle, and that the residue of mankind are miserable. Yet the greatest portion of the community pass their identical circle without ever dreaming of its exclusive advantages.—ZIMMERMAN.

Income. Appears to mean 'existence' in the following passage.

I would Minerva would but give strength to me, and but keep These busy darts off, I would then make in indeed, and steep My *income* in their blood.—CHAPMAN.

Sir Robert Walpole found an old account book of his father's wherein he set down all his expenses in three months and ten days, at the time that he was in London as member of Parliament. He spent, what do you think? sixty-four pounds seven shillings and fivepence. There are many entries for Nottingham Ale, eighteenpences for dinners, five shillings to Bob (now Earl of Orford), and one memorandum of six shillings given in exchange to Mr. Wilkins for his wig; and yet this old man my grandfather had an *income* of two thousand pounds a year. We little thought that what maintained him for a whole Session would scarce serve one of his younger grandsons to buy japan and fans for Princesses at Florence.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Indifferent. Impartial.

What more binding than conscience? What more free than *indifferency*? Cruel therefore must that *indifferency* needs be, that shall violate the strict necessity of conscience.—MILTON.

Horace Walpole. One of his innumerable whims was an extreme dislike to be considered as a man of letters. Not that he was *indifferent* to literary fame; far from it, scarcely any writer has ever troubled himself so much about the appearance which his works were to make before posterity. He wished to be a celebrated author, and yet to be a mere idle gentleman; and it is curious to see how impatiently Walpole bore the imputation of having attended to anything so unfashionable as the improvement of his mind.—MACAULAY.

Indolence. Once, freedom from care.

Epicurus. The Epicureans placed a man's happiness in the tranquility of his mind and *indolence* of his body. For this reason he passed his time wholly in the garden; there he studied, there he exercised, there he taught his philosophy.—Sir WILLIAM TEMPLE.

A good mind may bear up under the evils of life with fortitude, with *indolence*, and with cheerfulness of heart.—ADDISON.

I never saw the mischievous effect of *indolence* more conspicuously made manifest than in a part of the grounds here. People accustomed to the planting of trees are well aware how

grateful the rising generation of the forest are to the hand that thins and prunes them.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Indorse. To put on the back, once even of elephants.

Cuirassiers all of steel for standing fight,
Chariots or elephants *indorsed* with towers
Of archers.—MILTON.

Our war hangs by a hair they say, and that the approaching week must terminate its fluctuations. Brabant, I am told, is to be pacified by negotiations at the Hague. Tho' I talk like a newspaper, I do not assume their airs, nor give my intelligence of any sort for authentic, unless the Gazette *indorses* the articles, but in no Gazette do I find that Miss Gunning is a Marchioness. I tell you these trifles in order that you may not make on your return only a Baronial curtsey, when it should be lower by two rows of ermine to some new hatched Countess.—HORACE WALPOLE to Miss Berry.

Indue. To put on : now applied only to qualities of the mind or body.

Till I *indue* Achilles' arms.—CHAPMAN.

There was in Mrs. Siddons an elevation and magnitude of thought with which her noble nature was *endued*, and of which she seemed the natural mould and receptacle. Her nature always seemed above the circumstances with which she had to struggle, her soul to be greater than the passion labouring in her breast, grandeur was the cradle in which her genius was rocked, for her to be was to be sublime.—HAZLITT.

Infant. Used by some early poets for a knight, or prince. 'In the old times of Chivalry the noble youth were called Infans, Varlets, Bacheliers, Damoysels. Infans is translated *Child*.' (*Note to Ascough's Shakspeare.*)

To whom the *Infant* thus : Fair Sir, what need
Good turns be counted as a servile bond ?

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, ii. 8.

The *Infant* harkened wisely to her tale
And wondered much at Cupid's judgment wise.

SPENSER.

This said, the noble *infant* stood a space
Confused, speechless.—FAIRFAX, *Tasso*, xvi. 34.

The innocent prattle of his children takes out the sting of a man's poverty ; but the children of the very poor do not prattle. The little careless darling of the wealthier nursery in their hovel is transformed into the premature reflecting person : no one has time to dandle it, no one thinks it worth while to coax it, to soothe it, to toss it up and down, to humour it ; there is none to kiss away its tears. It has been prettily said that a 'babe is fed with milk and praise,' but the aliment of this poor *infant* was thin, unnourishing ; it grew up without the lullaby of nurses, it was a stranger to the patient fondle, the hushing caress, the prattled nonsense (best sense to it). It was never sung to, it was dragged up to live or die as it happened.—C. LAMB.

Inform. Once, to give life to, animate.

But if the potter pleased t' *inform* the clay.—QUARLES.

Large was his soul, as large a soul as e'er
Submitted to *inform* a body here.—COWLEY.

On reaching the brow of a bleak eminence he found his host and three sons stretched half asleep in their tartans upon the heath, with guns and dogs and a profusion of game amongst them, while in the court-yard far below appeared a company of women actively engaged in loading a cart with manure. The stranger was not a little surprised on being *informed* that amongst these industrious females were the Laird's own Lady and two or three daughters, but they seemed quite unconscious of having been detected in an occupation unsuitable to their rank.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Ingenious. Clever : now implies a more subtle kind of talent.

Four classes of boys : Those that are *ingenious* and industrious, those that are *ingenious* and idle, those that are dull and

diligent, and those that are invincibly dull and negligent.—FULLER.

There is no humour in my countrymen that I am more inclined to wonder at than their general thirst after news. There are about half a dozen *ingenious* men who live very plentifully upon this curiosity of their fellow subjects. They all of them receive the same advice from abroad, but their way of cooking it is very different. The public are not only pleased with it when served up hot, but when it is also set cold before them by those penetrating politicians. The text is given us by one set of writers and the comment by another.—ADDISON.

Ingrave. Like 'grave' (q. v.), to bury.

The heavy charge
That Nature binds me to I have performed ;
Ingraved is my brother.—WHITSTONE.

Sheep tracts, Botany Bay. One or more convicts are stationed on them to attend to the flocks and cattle, a London thief clothed in Kangaroo skins lodged under the bark of the dwarf eucalyptus (blue gum-tree), and keeping sheep fourteen thousand miles from Piccadilly, with a crook bent into the shape of a picklock, is not an uninteresting picture, and an *engraving* of it might have a very salutary effect.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Inhabitable. Used by Shakspeare in the reverse of its present meaning.

Were I tied to run afoot
Even to the frozen ridges of the Alps,
Or any other ground *inhabitable*,
Wherever Englishman durst set his foot.
SHAKSPEARE, *Richard II*, i. 1.

Lest that thy beauty make this stately town
Inhabitable, like the burning zone,
With sweet reflections of thy lovely face.—*Old Play*.

Irish cabins. With a wet mud floor, and a roof in tatters, how idle the search for comfort in tenements barely *inhabitable*.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Inherit. Not always to receive possession as *heir*, but simply to possess or obtain.

He that had wit would think that I had none,
To bury so much gold under a tree,
And never after to *inherit* it.

SHAKESPEARE, *Titus Andronicus*, ii. 3.

This, or else nothing will *inherit* her.

Id., *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, iii. 2.

When we observe how the same features and style of person and character descend from generation to generation, we can believe that some *inherited* weakness may account for these peculiarities. Little snapping turtles snap (the great naturalists tell us) before they are out of the egg shell. I am satisfied that much higher up in the scale of life character is distinctly shown at the age of two or three months.—HOLMES.

Innocent. Unfortunate.

He that hasteth himself to wax rich, shall ben soon *innocent*.—GOWER.

Sir Roger. He afterwards fell into an account of the diversions which had passed in his house during the holidays. I love, said he, to rejoice their poor hearts, and to see the whole village merry in my great hall. I allow a double quantity of malt to my small beer, and set it a running for twelve days to every one that calls for it. I have always a piece of cold beef and a mince pie upon the table, and am wonderfully pleased to see my tenants pass away a whole evening in playing their *innocent* tricks and smutting one another.—ADDISON.

Insinuation. Once, a plea for winning favour: now generally used in a bad sense.

Therefore carrying no other olive branch of intercession than the laying myself at your feet, nor no other *insinuation* for pardon or attention but the true-vowed sacrifice of unfeigned love.—SIR PHILIP SIDNEY to *Queen Elizabeth*.

Of Mr. Bentham we would always speak with the reverence

due to an original thinker and to a sincere and ardent friend to the human race. If a few weaknesses were mingled with his eminent virtues, if a few errors *insinuated* themselves among the very valuable truths which he taught, this is assuredly no time for noticing them.—MACAULAY.

Intend. Properly, to stretch or strain.

If we could open and *intend* our eye
We all like Moses should espy,
Ev'n in a bush, the radiant Deity.—COWLEY.

It is not our *intention* to attempt anything like a complete examination of the poetry of Milton; the public has long been agreed upon its merits. We cannot look upon the sportive exercises for which the genius of Milton ungirds itself, without catching a glimpse of the gorgeous and terrible panoply which it is accustomed to wear.—MACAULAY.

Interest. Once equivalent to 'usury.'

He hates our sacred nation, and he rails,
Even there where merchants most do congregate,
On me, my bargains, and my well-won thrift,
Which he calls *interest*.

SHAKESPEARE, *Merchant of Venice*, i. 3.

But though credit is but a transfer of capital from hand to hand, it is generally and naturally a transfer to hands more competent to employ the capital efficiently in production. If there were no such thing as credit, or if, from general insecurity and want of confidence, it were scantily practised, many persons who possess more or less of capital, but who from their occupation or want of the necessary skill and knowledge cannot personally superintend its employment, would derive no benefit from it. Their funds would either be idle or would be perhaps wasted in unskilful attempts to make them yield a profit. All this capital is now lent at *interest* and made available for production.—J. S. MILL.

Invent. Occurs in a sense different from its modern use.

And bade his servant Talus, to *invent*
Which way he enter might, without endangerment.

SPENSER.

Where, if his footsteps trust their own *invention*,
He falls without redress.—QUARLES.

A magazine is certainly a delightful *invention* for a very idle or a very busy man. Magazines resemble those little angels, who according to the pretty Rabbinical tradition are generated every morning by the brook which rolls over the flowers of Paradise, whose life is a song, who warble till sunset, and then sink back without regret into nothingness. Such spirits have nothing to do with the detecting spear of Ithuriel, or the victorious sword of Michael; it is enough for them to please and be forgotten.—MACAULAY.

Invitation. Inclination.

I wish you could pass a summer here. I might, too, probably return with you, unless you preferred to see France first, to which country I think you would have a strong *invitation*.—*Letter of Swift to Pope.*

Saturday, Sunday, and Monday next are the banquets at Cambridge for the instalment of the Duke of Newcastle as Chancellor. The whole world goes to it. He has *invited* the whole body of nobility and gentry from all parts of England; his cooks have been there these ten days, distilling essences of every living creature, and massacring and confounding all the species that Noah and Moses took such pains to preserve and distinguish.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Inward. An intimate acquaintance.

Sir, I was an *inward* of his; a shy fellow was the Duke, and I know the cause of his withdrawing.—SHAKESPEARE, *Measure for Measure*, iii. 2.

All my *inward* friends abhorred me.—*Authorised Version, Job xix. 19.*

Shylock. The character of Shylock is that of a man brooding over one idea, that of its wrongs, with a morose, sullen, *inward*,

inveterate, inflexible malignity. Shakspeare could not easily divest his characters of their entire humanity; he is honest *in his vices*. Shylock never, that we can find, loses his elasticity and presence of mind, our sympathies are much oftener with him than his enemies, and the character affords another instance of Shakspeare's power of identifying himself with the thoughts of men, their prejudices and almost instincts.—HAZLITT.

J.

Jangle. To prate, wrangle : now, to sound discordantly.

Gapeth as a rook, abroad go the jaw and mouth
Like a jay *jangling* in his cage.—LYDGATE.

A Dog. His mouth upon the ground he wipeth,
And so with feigned cheer he sleepeth,
That what as ever of sheep he strangle,
There is no man thereof to *jangle*.—SPENSER.

Nothing is to be heard but unquiet *janglings*, open brawlings, secret opposition ; the household takes part, and professes a mutual vexation.—Bishop HALL.

Study ought to be made pleasant. I never yet heard of any enterprising and philosophical German illustrating to young ladies a course of musical lectures by means of a violin that went thud, thud, and a piano that went jingle, *jangle*.—W. THOMPSON.

Jar. Formerly applied to a dissonant noise, as the ticking of a clock.

I love thee not a *jar* of the clock behind
What lady she her lord.

SHAKSPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, i. 2.

For now hath time made me his numb'ring clock,
My thoughts are minutes, and with sighs they *jar*
Their watches to mine eyes.

SHAKSPEARE, *Richard II*, v. 5.

How sickness enlarges the dimensions of a man's self to himself! He is his own exclusive object; supreme selfishness is inculcated upon him as his only duty. 'Tis the two Tables of the Law to him. He has nothing to think of but how to get well. What passes out of doors, or within them, so he hear not the *jarring* of them, affects him not. He has put on the strong armour of sickness, he is wrapped in the callous hide of suffering, he keeps his sympathy, like some curious vintage, under trusty lock and key, for his own use only.—C. LAMB.

Jargon. Incoherent and unintelligible chatter, as of birds. And so 'the sounding *jargon* of the schools.'

The sweete *jargon* of birds.—CHAUCER.

Shelley. He has become the apologist for would-be mystics and dreamers of foolish dreams. The blinding glitter of his diction, the confusion produced on an unsteady mind by the rapid whirl of his dazzling thoughts, have assisted in the formation of a false school of poetry—a school of sounding words and unintelligible metaphysics—a school of crude and bewildered *jargonists*.—LYTTON.

Jaunt. An excursion: now generally used in its sense of 'flightiness' or 'giddiness.'

Our Saviour meek and with untroubled mind,
After his airy *jaunt* through troubles sore,
Hungry and cold betook Him to His rest.—MILTON.

A bag-wig of a *jauntee* air,
Trick'd up with all a barber's care,
Loaded with powder and perfume,
Hung in a spendthrift's dressing-room.—SMART.

Windsor. You will perceive by my date that I am got into a new scene, and that I am retired hither like an old summer-

dowager, only that I have no toad-eater to take the air with me in the back part of my lozenge coach and be scolded. I have taken a small house here within the Castle, and propose spending the greater part of every week here till the Parliament meets, but my *jaunts* to town will prevent my news from being quite provincial and marvellous.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Jet. Old meaning, to throw out the body, to skip, or hop.

Then every man began
To foot it in and out,
And every girl did *jet* it, *jet* it,
Jet it round about.—*Old Song*.

The bird

Jets off from perch to perch, from stack to ground.

QUARLES.

For the first in his orations was very modest, and kept his place: and the other of all the Romans was the first that in his oration *jetted* up and down the pulpit.—NORTH, *Plutarch*.

Thus the small *jet*, which hasty hands unlock,
Spurts in the gardener's eyes who turns the cock.

POPE, *Dunciad*, ii.

Pleasure grounds. Facing the entrance lay a spacious grassy walk, terminated by an octangular basin with a curious *jet d'eau* playing in the centre: the waters spinning from the lower crevices were attenuated into innumerable little threads, which dispersed themselves in a horizontal direction and returned to the reservoir in a drizzling shower.—HERVEY.

Jig. Once used for song as well as dance.

A *jig* shall be clapt at, and every rhyme
Praised and applauded by a clamorous chime.—FLETCHER.

To hear the *jigs*, observe the frisks.—FORD.

Whistling match for those who should go through their tunes without laughing. There were three competitors for the guinea; the first was a ploughman of very promising aspect, his features were steady and his muscles composed in so inflexible a stupidity

that upon his first appearance every one gave the guinea for lost. The pickle-herring, however, found the way to shake him, for upon his whistling a country *jig*, this unlucky wag danced to it with such a variety of distortions and grimaces that the countryman could not forbear smiling upon him, and by that means spoiled his whistle and lost the prize.—ADDISON.

Jolly. Once a classical word, but now only of degenerate use.

Full straight and even lay his *jolie* schood.—CHAUCER.

Hire mouth was swete as braket or the meth,
Or hord of apples, laid in hay or heath,
Winsing she was, as is a *joly* colt,
Long as a mast, and upright as a bolt.

Id., *The Miller's Tale*.

While the *jolly* hours lead on propitious May,
Thy liquid notes that close the eye of day,
First heard before the shallow cuckoo's bill,
Portend success in love.—MILTON.

John di Crema, Cardinal, temp. Henry I. Jolly with his youthful blood and gallant equipage came over into England with his bigness and bravery to bluster the clergy out of their wives.—FULLER.

Pity poor, genial, elegant Ovid ! How these great men must feel as if they were dogs-eared all over ; besides, how incrustated their names are with the curses of unstudious boys ! Now I do not wish in the future that any lad should say to another ' I can't get up my condemned Ellesmere,' while the other replies, ' The beast ! I've done him, but I missed such a *jolly* game of cricket last evening.'—Sir A. HELPS.

Journal. Daily. The adjective has disappeared.

Stick to your *journal* course, the breach of custom
Is breach of all.—SHAKSPEARE, *Cymbeline*, iv. 2.

Ere twice

The sun hath made his *journal* greeting to
The under generation, you shall find
Your safety manifested.—Id., *Measure for Measure*, iv. 3.

But now my team begins to faint and fail,
As woxen weary of their *journal* toil.—SPENSER.

Another means by which the first Consul protected his power can excite no wonder: that he should fetter the press, should banish or imprison refractory editors, should subject the *journals* and more important works of literature to jealous superintendence,—these were things of course. Free writing and despotism are such implacable foes, that we hardly think of blaming a tyrant for keeping no terms with the press: he might as reasonably choose a volcano for the foundation of his throne. Necessity is laid upon him, unless he is in love with ruin, to check the bold and honest expression of thought: but the necessity is his own choice.—W. E. CHANNING.

Jump. Exactly. The verb to 'jump with' was to tally with, to coincide.

And bring him *jump* where he may Cassio find
Soliciting his wife.—SHAKESPEARE, *Othello*, ii. 2.

When not to be even *jump*
As they are here, were to be strangers.
BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Two Noble Kinsmen*, i. 2.

But, ah! this most delicious world, how sweet
Her pleasures relish, ah! how *jump* they meet
The grasping soul.—QUARLES.

Then they called a counsell, where they *jumped* with one general accord in this opinion.—HOLLAND, *Livy*.

This story *jumped* just *with* my dream to-night.—*Andromana*, O. Pl. xi. 53.

Amazons. There was a great revolution brought about in this female republic by means of a neighbouring king, who had made war upon them several years, and at length overthrew them in a great battle. It was this signal overthrow obliged them to call in the male republic to their assistance. From this time, the armies being chequered with both sexes, they polished apace: the men used to invite their fellow soldiers, and would dress their tents with flowers for their reception. After any advantage over the enemy, they used to *jump* together and make a

clattering with their swords and shields for joy, which in a few years produced several regular tunes and set dances.—ADDISON.

Justify. Once had a meaning of 'to bring to justice.'

The *justification* of valiant beggars.—*Statute of Henry VIII.*

Stocks were erected to *justify* persons begging unpermitted.—LAMBARD'S *Commentary*.

Pray has there been any talk of my cousin the Commodore (George Townshend) being blameable in letting slip some Spanish ships? There are whispers of a court-martial on him; they are all the fashion now; if you miss a post to me I will have you tried by a court-martial. Cope is come off most gloriously, his courage ascertained, and even his conduct, which everybody had given up, *justified*.—HORACE WALPOLE to Sir Horace Mann.

K.

Kind. Sometimes used by our old poets for 'nature.'

Usance is second *kinde*.—GOWER.

I think upon the nightingale,
Which sleepeth not by way of *kinde*
For love, in bokēs as I finde.—Id.

No bakke [bat] of *kinde* may look agein the sun.—LYDGATE.

Why birds and beasts, from quality and *kind*,
Why all these things change from their ordinance.

SHAKSPEARE, *Julius Cæsar*, i. 3.

Fitted by *kind* for rape and villainy.

Id., *Titus Andronicus*, ii. 1.

Horace Walpole. His wit was, in its essential properties, of the same *kind* with that of Cowley and Donne. Like theirs, it consisted in an exquisite perception of points of analogy and

points of contrast, too subtle for common observation : like them, Walpole perpetually startles us by the ease with which he yokes together ideas between which there would seem at first sight to be no connection. . . . No man who has written so much is so seldom tiresome.—MACAULAY.

King. At one time used for a female sovereign.

And hadden despit, that womman *kyng* schulde be.

RICHARD OF GLOUCESTER.

Ferdinand and Isabella, *Kings* of Spain.—BACON.

If there be a regal solitude, it is a sick bed. How the patient lords it there ; what caprices he acts without control ! How *king*-like he sways his pillow, tumbling and tossing, and shifting, and lowering, and thumping, and flatting and moulding it to the ever-varying requisitions of his throbbing temples.—C. LAMB.

Knave. Once meant a boy, and also a servant : the latter sense has survived in the knave in cards (Fr. *valet*).

He took up the Ladie and the little *knave*,
And to Sir Amadace there he them gave.

Metrical Romance.

A couple of Ford's *knaves*, his hinds.

SHAKESPEARE, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, iii. 5.

My good *knave* Eros, now thy captain is
Even such a body.

Id., *Antony and Cleopatra*, iv. 12.

Whilst the *knave*-fool, which well himself doth know,
Smiles at the coxcomb, which admires him so.

DRAYTON, *The Moon-Calf*.

The first consideration with a *knave* is how to help himself ; and the second, how to do it with an appearance of helping you. Dionysius the Tyrant stripped the statue of Jupiter Olympius of a robe of massy gold, and substituted a cloak of wool, saying, 'Gold is too cold in winter, and too heavy in summer : it behoves us to take care of Jupiter.'—C. C. COLTON'S *Lacon*.

If there were any private news, as there are none, I could not possibly to-day step out of my high historical '*pantoufles*' to tell you *Adieu*. You know I don't dislike to see the Kings and Queens and *knaves* of this world shuffled backwards and forwards; consequently I look on, very well amused, and very indifferent what is trumps.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Knowing. It would no longer be a compliment to describe a learned person as 'knowing.'

Nothing in all my life has been so great a pleasure to my nature as to bring deserving and *knowing* men together; it is the greatest favour that can be done either to great geniuses or useful men.—POPE.

His fancy was inimitably high, equalled only by his great wit; his aspect was cheerful, and such as gave a silent testimony of a clear, *knowing* soul, and of a conscience at peace with itself.—I. WALTON.

The horse jockey runs his hand down a horse's neck in a *knowing* way, and says, 'This horse has got a heavy shoulder, he is a slow horse.' He is right, but he does not understand the matter. What the jockey feels, and forms his judgment on, is the abrupt transition from the neck to the shoulder, which in a horse for the turf ought to be a smooth undulating surface.—Sir C. BELL.

L.

Lack. A fault.

And to Calistona she spake,
And set upon her many a *lacke*.—GOWER.

The beard was for many ages looked upon as the badge of wisdom. Lucian more than once rallies the philosophers of his time who endeavoured to rival one another in beards, and represents a learned man who stood for a professorship in philosophy as unqualified for it for *lack* of beard.—BUDGELL.

Lady. Applied to a nymph.

With all the *Ladies* of hills and valleys,
Of springs and floods.—*Old Ballad.*

Milton. Venal and licentious scribblers were now the favourite writers of the sovereign and the public. It was a loathsome herd, which could be compared to nothing so fitly as to the rabble of Comus,—grotesque monsters, half bestial, half human. Amidst these his muse was placed, like the chaste *lady* of the *masque*, lovely, spotless, and serene, to be chattered at and pointed at, and grinned at by the whole rabble of satyrs and goblins, but they had no power to disturb his sedate and majestic patience.—MACAULAY.

Lady Harrowby is superior to all the women I have ever known; 'her talk is so crisp,' as Luttrell once said of her. She has no imagination, no invention, no eloquence, no deep reading or retentive memory; but a noble straightforward independent character; a sound and vigorous understanding, penetration, judgment, taste. She is perfectly natural, open, and sincere; loves conversation and social enjoyment; with her intimate friends there is an *abandon* and unreserved communion of thoughts, feelings, and opinions, which renders her society delightful. Of all the women I ever saw, she unites the most masculine mind with the most feminine heart.—*Greville Memoirs*, 1834.

Leap. Applied to the movements of birds.

Therein a goldfinch *leaping* prettily
Fro bough to bough.—CHAUCER.

The nightingale *leap* fro bough to bough,
And on the pellican she made a cry,
And sayd, 'Pellican, why mourn'st thou now?'

LYDGATE.

Kendal. We could not without a chagrin observe the common people walk barefoot, and the children *leaping* as if they had hoofs, and these shod with iron; but it is almost the same all over the North. This town, so situated and out of the way, is yet celebrated for much woollen manufacture, and sends

from thence to most parts of England. From Newcastle his lordship's road lay to Carlisle. The Northumberland Sheriff gave us all arms, that is, a dagger, knife, penknife, and fork, all together.—*Life of Lord North*.

Learn. Once, like 'ascertain,' to impart, as well as to acquire, knowledge.

Lead me forth in thy truth and *learn* me; for thou art the God of my salvation.—*Prayer Book, Psalm xxv. 4*.

Whoever writes for future ages, must found himself upon the feelings and sentiments belonging to the mass of mankind. Whoever paints from nature, will rarely depart from the general character of repose impressed upon the scenery, and will prefer truth to the ideal sketches of the imagination. He who writes for posterity must *learn* to write slowly, and correct freely. It was a beautiful remark of Sir Joshua Reynolds, that great works, which are to live and stand the criticism of posterity, are not performed at a heat.—STORY.

Lecture. A lost meaning appears in the two following passages:

In the forehead and the eye
The *lecture* of the mind doth lie.—RAY'S *Proverbs*.

In the *lecture* of holy Scripture their apprehensions are commonly confined unto the literal sense of the text.—T. BROWN.

What we now *lecture* on as science, former ages wonder'd at, and fell down before, as religion.—CARLYLE.

Leer. Feature, expression: now, a peculiar look formed by a depression of the eyelid.

It pleases him to call you so; but he hath a Rosalind of a better *leer* than you.—SHAKSPEARE, *As You Like It*, iv. 1.

It is very untruly stated, that a prisoner before trial, not compelled to work and kept upon a plain diet, merely sufficient

to maintain him in health, is better off than he was previous to his accusation, and it is asked, with a triumphant *leer*, whether the situation of any man ought to be improved merely because he has become an object of suspicion to his fellow-creatures?—
 SYDNEY SMITH.

Legacy. Once, like *legatio*, an embassy or mission.

Then Ilians and Dardanians did still their counsels ply,
 Expecting his return he came and told his *legacy*.

CHAPMAN.

Employments. Among these I know none more delightful in itself and beneficial to the public than that of planting. I could mention a nobleman whose fortune has placed him in several parts of England, and has always left these visible marks behind him. He never hired a house in all his life without leaving all about it the seeds of wealth-bestowing *legacies* on the posterity of the owner.—ADDISON.

Let. To hinder. This word has fallen into disuse, but still survives as a technical word in certain games.

The tenth of April at St. Dunstan's Burie, God *letting* not, I will not fail the time.—*Old Play of King John*.

They that can make her Majesty believe that I counterfeit with her, cannot make God believe that I counterfeit with Him; and they that can *let* me from coming near unto her, cannot *let* me from coming near unto Him, as I hope I do daily.—*Letter to the Earl of Essex*.

But the times of that good king growing also troublesome, did *lett* the thorough reformation of all things.—SPENSER, *on Ireland*.

Levity. Formerly used both in the literal and metaphorical sense of 'lightness.'

He gave the form of *levity* to that which ascended; to that which descended, the form of gravity.—Sir W. RALEIGH.

I could not but smile upon reading a passage in the account which Mr. Baxter gives of his own life, wherein he represents it as a great blessing that in his youth he very narrowly escaped getting a place at Court. It must, indeed, be confessed that *levity* of temper takes a man off his guard, and opens a pass to his soul for any temptation which assaults it.—ADDISON.

Licentious. Not always applied to morals.

Poetry is a kind of learning generally confined to the measure of words, but otherwise extremely *licentious*, and truly belonging to the imagination.—BACON.

The Tyber, whose *licentious* waves
So often overflow'd the neighbouring fields,
Now runs a smooth and unoffensive course.

ROSCOMMON.

Old Age. As to all the rational and worthy pleasures of our being, the conscience of a good fame, the contemplation of another life, the respect and intercourse with honest men—such capacities for enjoyment are enlarged by years; and to such as are so unfortunate as not to be able to look back on youth with satisfaction, they may give themselves no little consolation that they are under no temptation to repeat their *licentious* follies, and that they now despise them.—STEELE.

Lie. Formerly used in the sense of staying or resting on a journey.

I have *layn* there this month, and taken much payne to reduce it to some good order.—*Bishop of Ely to Wolsey.*

Last night I heard they *lay* at Stony Stratford;
And at Northampton they do rest to-night.

SHAKSPEARE, *Richard III*, ii. 4.

Were an artist to paint or demand a picture of a Dryad, we will ask whether, in the present low state of expectation, the patron would not, or ought not, to be fully satisfied with a beautiful figure in the nude under wide-stretched oaks? Not so, Julio Romano. Long, grotesque, fantastic, yet with a grace of her own, beautiful in convolution and distortion, linked to her co-unnatural tree, co-twisted with its limbs her own, till both

seemed either yet the animal and vegetable lives, sufficiently kept distinct. His Dryad *lay* an approximation of two natures, which to conceive it must be seen.—C. LAMB.

Life. Once, a person.

That nedes mot, that nedes shall
Of that a *life* doth after kinde.—GOWER.

That as it seemed to a *life* without,
The berries spread the herbere [arbour] all about.

JAMES I. OF SCOTLAND.

There is always a best way of doing everything. Manners are the happy ways of doing things; each one a stroke of genius or of love, now repeated and hardened into usage. They form at last a rich varnish with which the routine of *life* is washed, and its details adorned. If they are superficial, so are the dew-drops which give such a depth to the morning meadows.—EMERSON.

Likelihood. Formerly, resemblance generally, as well as to truth.

The mayor, and all his brethren, in best sort—
Like to the senators of the antique Rome,
With the plebeians swarming at their heels—
Go forth, and fetch their conquering Cæsar in :
As by a low but loving *likelihood*,
Were now the general of our gracious empress,
(As, in good time, he may) from Ireland coming,
Bringing rebellion brooched upon his sword,
How many would the peaceful city quit,
To welcome him !—SHAKESPEARE, *Henry V*, v. (Chorus.)

There is no *likelihood* between pure light and black darkness, nor between righteousness and reprobation.—Sir W. RALEIGH.

The church, as it is now equipt, looks more like a greenhouse than a place of worship. The middle aisle is a very pretty shady walk, and the pews look like so many arbours on each side of it. The pulpit itself has such clusters of ivy and holly and rosemary about it, that a light fellow in our pew took occasion to say that the congregation heard the word out of a bush, like

Moses. Sir Anthony Love's pew, in particular, is so well hedged, that there is no *likelihood* of my batteries taking effect. I am obliged to shoot at random among the boughs without taking any manner of aim.—*Spectator*.

Liquidate. To make clear : now only applied to the settlement of debts or accounts. So 'liquid' occurs in the sense of clear (*liquidus*).

But now it is time that I should awake, and raise myself from the earth, and explore the *liquid* regions of philosophy and science.—BACON.

A senseless jumble soon *liquidated* by a more egregious act of folly : the king, with his own hand, crowning the young Duke of Warwick, King of the Isle of Wight.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Balance in Accounts. The balance which may be less than the amount of many of the transactions singly, and is necessarily less than the sum of the transactions, is all that is paid in money ; and perhaps this is not paid, but handed over in an account current for the next year. A single payment of a hundred pounds may in this manner suffice to *liquidate* a long series of transactions, some of them to the value of thousands.—J. S. MILL.

List. Bounds or limits ; the edge or border. Now used of the modern tournament of the prize-ring.

I am bound to your niece, sir ; I mean she is the *list* of my voyage.—SHAKSPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, iii. 1.

The very *list*, the very utmost bound
Of all our fortunes.—Id., 1 *Henry IV*, iv. 1.

Dress'd to advantage, this illustrious pair
Arriv'd, for combat in the *list* appear.

WALLER, *The Triple Combat*.

Lively. Life-like.

Zeuxis, the curious painter, painted a boy holding a dish of grapes in his hand, done so *lively* that the birds being deceived

flocked to peck the grapes. But Zeuxis was angry with his own work, 'Had I,' said he, 'made the boy as *lively* as the grapes, the birds would have been afraid to touch them.'—FULLER.

James I. His funerals were performed very solemnly at Westminster, his *lively* statue being presented on a magnificent hearse.—Id.

His little son into his bosom creeps,
The *lively* picture of his father's face ;
Never his humble house or state torments him,
Less he could like, if less his God had sent him,
And when he dies, green turf, with grassy tomb contents
him.—FLETCHER.

Absence, it is observed, either increases or diminishes our affections. Rochefoucauld has remarked that 'absence destroys weak passions but increases strong ; as the wind extinguishes a candle but blows up a fire.' Long absence naturally weakens our idea, and diminishes the passion, but where the affection is so strong and *lively* as to support itself, the uneasiness arriving from absence increases the passion and gives it fresh force and influence.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Livery. Originally an allowance of food as well as clothing.

What *livery* is, we by common use in England know well enough, namely, that it is an allowance of horse-meate, as they commonly use the word in stabling, as to keep horses at *livery* ; the which word I guesse is derived of *livering* or delivering their nightly foode. So in great houses the *livery* is said to be served up for all night, that is, their evening's allowance for drinke. And *livery* is also called the upper weede which a serving man weareth, so called (as I suppose) for that it was delivered and taken from him at pleasure.—SPENSER, *On Ireland*.

They gladly did of that same babe accept,
As of her own by *livery* and clothing.—Id.

Players. Made up of mimic laughter and tears, they wear the *livery* of other men's fortunes. Their very thoughts are not their own. They are, as it were, train-bearers in the pageant

of life, and hold a glass up to humanity. We see ourselves at second hand in them, they show us what we are, all that we wish to be, and all that we dread to be : the stage is an epitome, a bettered likeness of the world with the dull part left out.—HAZLITT.

Loathsomeness. Unwillingness.

The difficulty to discuss the right and the *loathsomeness* of the Queen's Majesty to consent thereto.—CECIL.

The *loathsomeness* to grant it (the succession) is by reason of natural suspicion against a successor.—Id.

Ariosto tells a pretty story of a fairy, who by some mysterious law of her nature was condemned to appear at certain seasons in the form of a foul and poisonous snake. Those who injured her during the period of her disgrace, were for ever excluded from participation in the blessings which she bestowed ; but to those who in spite of her *loathsome* aspect pitied and protected her, she afterwards revealed herself in the beautiful and celestial form which was natural to her. Such a spirit is Liberty, at times she takes the form of a hateful reptile ; she grovels, she hisses, she stings, but woe to those who shall venture to crush her.—MACAULAY.

Lodgings. At one time used of a royal residence, or chamber.

Prior Bolton was a great builder and repairer of the Priory Church and divers *lodgings* belonging to the king.—WEEVER.

The great dining chamber, called the king's *lodgings*.—LAYTON.

Upon retiring to my *lodgings* I threw together the following reflections on the subject of pedantry. A man who has been brought up among books and is able to talk of nothing else is a very indifferent companion, but methinks we should enlarge the title and give it to every man who does not know how to think out of his own profession and way of life. What is a greater pedant than a mere man of the town ? Bar him the play-house and a catalogue of the reigning beauties, and you strike him dumb. I might mention the military pedant who always talks

in a camp, the law pedant that is perpetually putting cases, the state pedant wrapt up in news and lost in politics. Of all pedants the book pedant is much the most supportable.—ADDISON.

Loft. The floor of a room.

All so dainty the bed where she would lie
By a false trap was let adowne to fall
Into a lower room, and by and by
The *loft* was raised again that no man could it spy.

SPENSER.

Eutychus fell down from the third *loft*.—*Authorised Version*, Acts xx. 9.

Aristocratic wife. She makes an illumination once a week with wax candles in one of the lower rooms, in order, as she phrases it, to see company : at which time she always orders me to be abroad, that I may not disgrace her among her visitants of quality, or confine myself to the cock-*loft*. She is perpetually finding out the features of her own relations in every one of my children, though I have a little chub-faced boy as like me as he can stare, if I durst say so. As for my eldest son Oddley, he drew his sword upon me before he was nine years old, and told me that he expected to be used like a gentleman.—*Spectator*.

Lout. To humiliate, demean. The verb is now obsolete.

Renowned Talbot doth expect my aid,
And I am *louted* by a traitor villain,
And cannot help the noble chevalier.

SHAKSPEARE, I *Henry VI*, iv. 3.

A knowledge of the world never forsakes Walter Scott, and in him it is always idealised up to the point of dramatic narrative, and no further. His kings speak according to all our popular associations with those kings ; his peasants may be a little wittier and sharper than a fine gentleman discovers *louts* to be : still they are not falsified into epigrammatists or declaimers. His humanity, like Shakspeare's, is always genial and indulgent.—*Caxtoniana*.

Lovely. Loving.

And many a *lovely* look on them he cast.—GOWER.

Who could have divined in the beautiful dreamy youth of Milton the destined champion of fanatics, to whom the Muses and the Graces were daughters of Belial? Who could have supposed that from one of such golden platonisms, such *lovely* fancies as meet and ravish us in 'Comus' and 'L'Allegro' and 'Il Penseroso,' would rise the inflexible, wrathful genius? Happy that surviving the age of strife, that mystic spirit was seen in old age nearer to the gates of heaven than even in youth, blending all the poetry of Christendom itself in that wondrous Hymn, compared to which Tasso's song is but a dainty lay, and even Dante's verse but a Gothic mystery.—*Caxtoniana*.

Lover. A friend.

Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, and mine acquaintance into darkness.—*Authorised Version, Psalm lxxxviii.* 18.

And yet gavest thou me never so much as a kid, that I might make merry with my *lovers*.—CRANMER'S *Bible, Luke* xv. 29.

I tell thee, fellow,
The general is my *lover*.

SHAKESPEARE, *Coriolanus*, v. 2.

The people had now to see tyranny unmasked; that foul Duenna was stripped of her gorgeous ornaments. She had always been hideous, but a strange enchantment had made her seem fair and glorious in the eyes of her willing slaves. The spell was now broken, the deformity was now manifest, and the *lovers* lately so happy and so proud, turned away loathing and horror-struck.—MACAULAY.

Lusty. Loving, lovely : now usually 'well clothed with flesh.'

Laodomie his *lusty* wife,
Which for his love was pensive.—GOWER.

Full *lusty* was the weather and benign.—CHAUCER.

Pleasure grounds. Nature had sunk the lawn into a gentle

decline, on whose ample sides were oxen browsing and lambs frisking. The *lusty* droves lowed as they passed, and the thriving flocks bleated welcome in their master's ear.—HERVEY.

M.

Magic. } 'Magic' once had the more honour-
Magician. } able meaning of natural philosophy.

We here understand *magic* in its ancient and honourable sense: among the Persians it stood for a sublime wisdom, or a knowledge of the relations of universal Nature, as may be observed in the titles of those kings who came from the East to adore Christ.—BACON.

Those who become practically versed in nature are the mechanic, or the mathematician, the physician, the alchemist, and the *magician*; but all, as matters now stand, with faint efforts and meagre success.—Id.

Can I forget thee, thou old Margate Hoy, with thy weather-beaten, sun-burnt captain, and his rough accommodations, ill exchanged for the foppery and fresh water niceness of the modern steam-packet? To the winds and waves thou committedst thy goodly freightage, and didst ask no aid of *magic* fumes and spells, and boiling cauldrons: with the gales of heaven thou wentest swimmingly, or when it was their pleasure, stoodest still with sailor-like patience.—C. LAMB.

In a library we are surrounded by many hundreds of dear friends, but they are imprisoned by an enchanter in their paper and leather boxes, and though they know us and have been waiting two, ten, or twenty centuries for us, some of them, and are eager to give us a sign and unbosom themselves, it is the law of their limbs not to speak until spoken to; and the *magician* has dressed them like battalions of infantry.—EMERSON.

Magnify. To exalt. Shakspeare sometimes uses

'magnificent' as 'pretending to greatness.' In other old writers it occurs as equivalent to 'munificent.'

Then cometh *magnificence*, that is to say, when a man doeth and performeth great works of goodness that he hath begun.—CHAUCER.

Where sat a lady greatly *magnified*.—SPENSER.

My soul doth *magnify* the Lord.—*Prayer Book*.

A domineering pedant o'er the boy,
Than whom no mortal so *magnificent*.

SHAKESPEARE, *Love's Labour's Lost*, i. 1.

The power to detach and to *magnify* by detaching, is the essence of rhetoric in the hands of the orator and the poet. This rhetoric, or the power to fix the momentary eminency of an object, so remarkable in Burke and in Carlyle, the painter and the sculptor exhibit in colour and in stone.—EMERSON.

Make. A mate, companion, husband or wife : now obsolete.

Who is so true and eke so ententif
To keep him sick and whole, as is his *make*?

CHAUCER.

Nightingales at night syngen and wake
For long absence and wanting of his *make*.—LYDGATE.

There's no goose so gray in the lake
That cannot find a gander for her *make*.

LYLY, *Mother Bombie*, iii. 4.

And of faire Britomart example take,
That was as true in love, as turtle to her *make*.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, iii. 11.

So when they slight their *makes* at hame,
'Tis ten to one the wives are maist to blame.

A. RAMSAY.

One who has no seen an Italian in the pulpit will not know what to *make* of that noble gesture in Raphael's picture of St. Paul preaching at Athens, where the Apostle is represented

as lifting up both his arms and pouring out the thunder of his rhetoric, amidst an audience of Pagan Philosophers. It is certain that proper gestures and vehement exertions of the voice cannot be too much studied by a public orator, they are a kind of comment to what he utters, and enforce everything he says better than the strongest arguments he can make use of; they show the speaker in earnest and himself affected with what he so passionately recommends to others.—ADDISON.

Malice. Destruction, injury.

What reproche, shame, and vilanie should be cast through the world upon us and this our Reaume, Lordships and subjects, if it were not convenably resisted, to the *malice* of our said adversary.—HENRY VI, *Letter to the Abbot of St. Edmund's*.

Malice is more frequently employed to express the dispositions of inferior minds to execute every purpose of mischief, within the more limited circle of their abilities.—COGAN.

My worthy friend Sir Roger, when we are talking of the *malice* of parties, very frequently tells us an accident that happened to him when he was a schoolboy, which was at a time when feuds ran high between the Roundheads and Cavaliers. He had occasion to enquire the way to St. Anne's lane, upon which the person addressed, instead of answering him, called him a young Popish cur, and asked him who had made Anne a Saint? The boy being in some confusion enquired of the next he met, which was the way to Anne's lane, but was called a prick-eared cur for his pains, and instead of being shewn the way, was told that she had been a Saint before he was born, and would be one after he was hanged.—ADDISON.

Manage. To carry out, execute: now, to administer, carry on.

To send the Messias for accomplishing the greatest design that ever was *managed* in this world.—BARROW.

Providence *managing* things with infinite temper and wisdom to the good of mankind.—Id.

All correct conceptions are the effect of careful practice:

we little doubt that a mirror would direct us in the *management* of the most familiar of our features, and our hand would follow its guidance until we try to cut off a lock of our hair.—W. S. LANDOR.

It is too ludicrous, too melancholy, to think of the finances of this country being *managed* by such a man [Lord Althorp]: what will not people endure? What a strange medley politics produce: a wretched clerk in an office who makes some unimportant blunder, some clerical error, or who exhibits signs of incapacity for work, which it does not much signify whether it be well or ill done, is got rid of, and here this man, this good-natured, popular, liked-and-laughed-at good fellow, more of a grazier than a statesman, blurts out his utter ignorance before a Reformed Parliament, and people lift up their eyes, shrug their shoulders, and laugh and chuckle, but still on he goes.—*Greville Memoirs*, vol. iii. p. 3.

Many. An old name for a ‘company,’ or ‘retinue.’

The rascal *many* soon they overthrew,
But the two knights themselves, their captains did subdue.
SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*.

It is very curious to observe the way in which anger is wont to make use of the plural. No sooner is any man injured by some one person belonging to a body, than the injured man attaches the blame to the whole of the body. He is injured by one person belonging to a family, or a government, or any section of mankind; forthwith he goes about saying, ‘they are abominable people, they used me shamefully.’ This practice seems at first ludicrous, but it often leads to the most serious consequences; they hear of it and are prompt to take up the quarrel, so in the end he really has to contend against the injustice, not only of one man, but of *many* men.—Sir A. HELPS.

Marmalade, says Dr. Johnson, ‘is the pulp of quinces boiled into a consistence with sugar.’ It is now, however, applied to decoctions of many fruits.

And at night to banquet with dew (as they say) of all manner of fruits and confections, *marmelad*, succad, greene-ginger, com-

fiettes, sugerplate, with malmesay and romney burnt with suger, synamond and cloves with bastarde, muscadell and ipocrasse, &c.—
TYNDALL.

Apple *marmalade* is delicious when eaten with milk, and still better with cream.—Mrs. RUNDELL.

Master. Applied in the sense of ‘chief,’ ‘principal,’ to a street or tower, as we say now, a *master-mind*. So a ‘master-prize’ was the best throw in wrestling, and ‘master-vein’ meant a principal artery.

The daughters twain
Of Mynos, that in their chamber great
Dwellen above the *maister* street
Of Athens.—CHAUCER.

To staunch blood when a *maister-veine* is cut.—*Pathway to Health*.

Public Schools. It is very remarkable that the most eminent men in every art and science have not been educated at public schools. The great schools of Scotland we do not call public schools because in these the mixture of domestic life gives to them a widely different character; we have no hesitation in saying that that education seems to us to be the best which mingles a domestic life with a school life, and which gives to a youth the advantage which is to be derived from the learning of a *master*, and the emulation which results from the society of other boys, together with the affectionate vigilance which he must experience in the house of his parents.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Mate. To oppose, to confound. Hence the term ‘check-mate’ in chess. The word is rarely used now.

That i’ th’ way of loyalty and truth,
Dare *mate* a sounder man than Surrey can be.
SHAKSPEARE, *Henry VIII*, iii. 2.

You are all *mated*, or stark mad.

Id., *Comedy of Errors*, v. 1.

For thus the mastful chestnut *mates* the skies.—DRYDEN.

I can be a friend to a worthy man, who upon another account cannot be my *mate-fellow*. There may be individuals born so opposite to another individual nature, that the same sphere cannot hold them. I have met with my moral antipodes, and can believe the story of two people meeting (who never saw each other before in their lives) and instantly fighting.—C. LAMB.

May. A maiden.

Was wedded thilk same day,
That frish wife, that lusty *may*.—CHAUCER.

The fairest *may* she was that ever went,
The like she has not left behind I weene.

SPENSER, *Shepherd's Kalendar*.

'Madame,' said Whitelock to Queen Christina, 'Monday next is the first day of *May*, a great day in England, we call it May-day, when the gentlemen used to wait upon their mistresses abroad to bid the Spring welcome, and to have some collation or entertainment for them. Now your Majesty being my mistress, if you will do me the honour that after the custom of England I may wait on you on May-day, and have a little treatment for you after the manner of England, this I call going into England and shall take it as a very great favour from your Majesty.'—WHITELOCK.

Meat. Not always applied to animal food.

But every lust he shall forbear
Of man, and like an ox, his *meat*
Of grass, he shall purchase and eat.—GOWER.

His *meat* was locusts and wild honey.—*Authorised Version*, *Matthew* iii. 4.

Nor is he a stranger to poetry, which is music in words, nor to music, which is poetry in sound: but they have lived and died poor, that made it their *meat*.—FULLER.

I have always compared the Protestant Church in Ireland to the institution of butcher's shops in all the villages of the Indian Empire. 'We will have a butcher's shop in every village, and you Hindus shall pay for it. We know that many of you do not eat *meat* at all, and that the sight of beefsteak is particu-

larly offensive to you, but still a stray European may pass thro' your village and want a steak, or a chop. The shop shall be established and you shall pay for it.' This is English legislation for Ireland!—SYDNEY SMITH (1845).

Meddle. To mingle : now, to interfere.

O mighty Lord, towards my vice
Thy mercy *medle* with justice.

GOWER, *Confessio Amantis*.

Nor no false cokkel be *medly'd* with good corn,
Chuse we the roses, throw away the thorne.—LYDGATE.
When venim *medleth* with the sucre,
And mariage is made for lucre.—Id.

He cut a lock of all their hair
Which *medling* with their blood and earth he threw
Into the grave.—SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, ii. 1.

The red rose *meddled* with the white yfere
In eyther cheek depeincten lively cheer.

Id., *Shepherd's Kalendar*.

If a prudent man sees a child playing with a porcelain cup of great value, he takes the vessel out of his hand, pats him on the head, tells him his Mama will be sorry if it is broken, and gently cheats him into the use of some less precious substitute. Why will Lord Sydmouth *meddle* with the Toleration Act? We should be very glad if it were safely back in the Statute-book, and the sedulity of this well-meaning nobleman diverted into another channel.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Mediocrity. Now a middle position between great and small, leaning somewhat to inferiority, but once used for 'moderation,' as opposed to extreme opinions or deeds.

He [Bishop of Constance] noted and delighted in English *mediocrity*, charging the Genevans and the Scotts with going too far in extremities.—HOOKER.

When they urge us to extreme opposition against the Church of Rome, do they mean that we should be drawn into it only for a time, and afterwards return to a *mediocrity*?—Id.

I dined the day before yesterday with old Lady Cork, to meet the Bonapartes. There were Joseph, Lucien, Lucien's daughter, the widow of Louis Bonaparte, Hortense's son [afterwards the Emperor Napoleon III.], the Dudley Stuarts, Belhavens, Rogers, Lady Clarendon, and Lady Davy and myself; not very amusing, but curious to see these two men, one of whom would not be a king, when he might have chosen almost any crown he pleased (conceive, for instance, having refused the kingdom of Naples), and the other, who was first King of Naples and then King of Spain, commanded armies, and had the honour of being defeated at Vittoria by the Duke of Wellington. There they sat, these brothers of Napoleon, who once trampled upon all Europe, and at whose feet the potentates of the earth bowed, two simple, plain-looking, civil, courteous, smiling gentlemen. They say Lucien is a very agreeable man, Joseph nothing. Joseph is a caricature of Napoleon in his latter days, at least so I guess from the pictures. He is taller, stouter, with the same sort of face, but without the expression, and particularly without the eagle eye. Lucien looked as if he had once been like him, that is, his face in shape is like the pictures of Napoleon when he was thin and young, but Lucien is a very large, tall man. They talked little, but stayed on in the evening, when there was a party, and received very civilly all the people who were presented to them. There was not the slightest affectation of royalty in either of them. Lucien, indeed, had no occasion for any, but a man who had ruled over two kingdoms might be excused for betraying something of his former condition, but on the contrary, everything regal that he ever had about him seemed to have been merged in his American citizenship, and he looked more like a Yankee cultivator than a King of Spain and the Indies. Though there was nothing to see in Joseph, who is, I believe, a very *mediocre* personage, I could not help gazing at him and running over in my mind the strange events in which he had been concerned in the course of his life, and regarding him as a curiosity, and probably as the most extraordinary living instance of the freaks of fortune and the instability of human grandeur.—*Greville Memoirs*, 1833.

Melancholy. Formerly sometimes implied a condition bordering on madness. Nares says: 'A solemn

and even *melancholy* air was affected by the beaus of Queen Elizabeth's time, as a refined mark of gentility. This, like other false refinements, came from France.'

I have neither the scholar's *melancholy*, which is emulation ; nor the musician's, which is fantastical ; nor the courtier's, which is proud ; nor the soldier's, which is ambitious ; nor the lawyer's, which is politic ; nor the lady's, which is nice ; nor the lover's, which is all of these : but it is a *melancholy* of mine own.—SHAKESPEARE, *As You Like It*, iv. 1.

Melancholy ! Marry gup. Is *melancholy* a word for a barber's mouth ? Thou should'st say heavie, dull, and doltish : *melancholy* is the creast of courtiers' armes, and now every base companion, being in his mublefubles, says he is *melancholy*.

Petul. Motto, thou should'st say thou art lumpish. If thou encroach upon our courtly tearmes, wee le trounce thee.—LYLY, *Midas*, v. 2.

They reject as dreams and *melancholy* notions those counsels and preparations which regard futurity.—BACON.

L'Allegro and Il Penseroso. Milton's Mirth and *Melancholy* are solitary, silent companions of the breast, neither receive nor transmit communications ; no mention is made therefore of a philosophical friend or a pleasant companion. Both his characters delight in music, but he seems to think that cheerful notes would never have obtained from Pluto a complete dismissal of Eurydice, of whom solemn sounds alone procured a conditional release. For the old age of cheerfulness he makes no provision, but *Melancholy* he conducts with great dignity to the close of life. His cheerfulness is without levity, and his pensiveness without asperity ; no mirth can indeed be found in his *melancholy*, but I am afraid I meet always some *melancholy* in his mirth. They are two noble efforts of imagination. The greatest of his juvenile performances is the Mask of Comus, in which may very plainly be discovered the dawn or twilight of Paradise Lost.—Dr. JOHNSON.

Mere. Pure, absolute : now, simple.

It is Othello's pleasure, our noble and valiant general, that upon certain tidings now arrived importing the *mere* perdition

of the Turkish fleet, every man put himself into triumph.—
SHAKESPEARE, *Othello*, ii. 2.

Sprung from no man, but *mere* divine.—CHAPMAN.

My poore self, by birth, education, and sworn allegiance, a
mere English Gentleman.—JOHN ARUNDEL, 1590.

The *mere* loss of territory was however of little moment, the
reluctant obedience of distant provinces generally costs more
than it is worth. England was never so rich, so great, so for-
midable to foreign princes, so absolutely mistress of the sea, as
after the loss of her American Colonies.—MACAULAY.

Meritorious. Not always, as now, deserving praise.

Jezebel. Her painting, a most *meritorious* and principal cause
of her so sad destiny.—J. TAYLOR.

Posthumous fame. If this is a desire common to the great
mass of our species, it must evidently rise out of the affections
common to all. It is a desire for love, not a thirst for glory.
It is not the renown accorded to the exceptional and rare *merito-
rious* intelligences, which soar above the level of mankind. The
vast democracy of the dead are represented by an oligarchy to
which that of Venice was liberal. Out of all the myriads that
have tenanted our earth, the number even of eminent intellects
is startlingly small.—*Caxtoniana*.

Merry. Cheerful.

His voice was *merrier* than the *merry* organ on Masse days.—
CHAUCER.

The nightingale, with so *merry* a note
Answered hem, that all the wood rung.—Id.

I beseche Hym make you all *merrie* in the hope of Heaven.—
WICLIF.

I pray you be with my children and household *merry* in
God.—Sir T. MORE.

I believe I must give up my Journal till we leave Paris.
The French are literally outrageous in their civilities, bounce in
at all hours and drive one half mad with compliments. I am

ungracious not to be entirely thankful as I ought to this kind and merry people.—Sir W. SCOTT.

Metaphysical. Used by Shakspeare as ‘supernatural.’

All that impedes thee from the golden round,
Which Fate and *metaphysical* aid doth seem
To have thee crowned withal.

SHAKSPEARE, *Macbeth*, i. 5.

Ideal presence. Cold and barren tempers without imagination will smile at this equivocal state, the ideal presence ; yet it is a real one to the enthusiast of genius, and it is his happiest and peculiar condition. Without this faculty no *metaphysical* aid, no art to be taught him, no mastery of talent shall avail him ; unblest with it, the votary shall find each sacrifice lying cold on the altar, for no accepting flame from heaven shall kindle it.—I. DISRAELI.

Mighty. Used once for physical strength.

A *mighty* man, that can and may,
Should with his hand and body alway
Win him his food in labouring
If he ne have rent, or such a thing.—CHAUCER.

The Catholic Church. She saw the commencement of all the governments and of all the ecclesiastical establishments that now exist in the world, and we feel no assurance that she is not destined to see the end of them. She was respected and *mighty* before the Saxon herd set foot on Britain, before the Frank had passed the Rhine, when Grecian eloquence still flourished at Antioch, when idols were still worshipped in the temple of Mecca, and she may still exist in undiminished vigour when some traveller from New Zealand shall in the midst of a vast solitude take his stand on a broken arch of London Bridge to sketch the ruins of St. Paul’s.—MACAULAY.

Mile. Once used for a measure of time, as well as space.

And tho’ I stond there a *mile*
All is forgot for the while.—GOWER.

She desired me to read to her Prior's 'Turtle and Sparrow' and his 'Apollo and Daphne,' which tho' scarce known are two of the wittiest and genteelest of his poems. There should be new way-posts to some of our best poets, since Dr. Johnson, from want of taste and ear, and from mean party malice, defaced the old indexes, as the mob do *milestones*.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Minute. Half a farthing, a mite.

But when a pore widowe was come, she cast in twy *minutes*, that is a farthing.—WICLIF'S *Bible*, *Luke* xxi.

Warwick's Spare Minutes, 1637. We have a few spare *minutes* (the reader will forgive us the pun) to dedicate to this spare volume. His book is a string of proverbial meditations and meditated proverbs: he does not speak without reason and cannot reason without maxim; his language is quaint in conceits and conceited in quaintness; it proceeds on an almost uniform balance of antithesis, but his observations are at once acute, deep and practical.—HAZLITT.

Miser. Used by old writers for a miserable wretch.

I wish that it may not prove some ominous foretoken of misfortune to have met with such a *miser* as I am.—Sir. P. SIDNEY.

Fair son of Mars, that seek with warlike spoil
And great achievements great yourself to make,
Vouchsafe to stay your steed, for humble *miser's* sake.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*.

Decrepit *miser*! base, ignoble wretch!
I am descended of a gentler blood;
Thou art no father nor no friend of mine.

SHAKSPEARE, I *Henry VI*, v. 5.

Why are *misers* so hateful in the world, and so endurable on the stage, but because the skilful actor, by a sort of sub-reference rather than direct appeal to us, disarms the character of a great deal of its odiousness by seeming to engage our compassion for the insecure tenure by which he holds his money bags and parchments? The *miser* becomes sympathetic, i. e. is no genuine *miser*.

Here a diverting likeness is substituted for a very disagreeable reality.—C. LAMB.

Miserable. } The old and modern meanings of this
Misery. } word and the preceding have been
 reversed.

The liberal-hearted man is by the opinion of the prodigal *miserable*, and by the judgment of the *miserable* lavish.—HOOKER.

Perseus' covetousness and *misery* was the destruction of himself and of his realm of Macedon.—NORTH.

A man without a grievance is a poor naked creature. A rich man who has not had his losses, a politician who has been rightly placed and never misunderstood, a lawyer or a divine who has met with promotion exactly at the right time, an inventor who has had his invention 'taken into due consideration' by official persons, a patriot who has never been in prison—*miserable* men all of them!—Sir A. HELPS.

Mistress. A title given to unmarried as well as married ladies in the beginning of the eighteenth century.

My Lord Shaftsbury happening to dine at Lord Chancellor Clarendon's, found out the marriage of the Duke of York and *Mistress* Hyde by the respect with which her mother treated her at table.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Modern. At one time used for 'trite.'

With eyes severe and beard of formal cut,
 Full of wise saws, and *modern* instances.

SHAKESPEARE, *As You Like It*, ii. 7.

What contrivances there are in *modern* life for losing time and adding to worry!—Visits as tiresome to the person visiting as to the person visited. How much every one endures in the way of dress in order to disfigure himself as much as the rest of mankind and avoid being hooted by little boys in the streets.—Sir A. HELPS.

Monster. Not always an unnatural object, as now.

For certes Nature had such list
To make that faire, that truly she
Was the chief patron of beaute,
And chief ensample of all her werke,
And *monster*.—CHAUCER, *The Dream*.

The animals of the antediluvial world were not *monsters*. There was no *lusus* or extravagance. Hideous as they appear to us and like the phantoms of a dream, they were adapted to the condition of the earth when they existed.—SIR C. BELL.

Morrow. At one time equivalent to morning.

Fire at *morrow* and towards bed at eve,
For mistes black and air of pestilence.

LYDGATE, *Riches of Health*.

Soon as the *morrow* fair with purple beams
Dispersed the shadows of the misty night.—SPENSER.

And for to walk that freshe Maye *morrow*.—Id.

If there be rainbow in the eve,
It will rain and tempest leave ;
If there be rainbow in the *morrow*
It will neither lend nor borrow.

RAY'S *Proverbs*.

The countenance of Charles the Ninth is so horrid and remarkable that you would think he died on the *morrow* of the Saint Bartholemi (Massacre) and waked full of the recollection.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Morsel. Literally, a mouthful : hence, any small fragment.

The gall of the dragon shall be their drink, and the venom of the dragon their *morsels*.—CHAUCER.

A dog crossing a river with a *morsel* of flesh in his mouth, saw, as he thought, another dog upon the very same adventure.—L'ESTRANGE.

I who have been no further than Park Place for these four

years was not at all fatigued by a hundred and twenty miles in three days, was new dressed by seven yesterday evening, went to Madame Walpole's, and then supped at Lady Churchill's; in short, I am so proud of all these feats, that if you two were to elope—I will say with portly Hal, the moment he had beheaded Ann Boleyn,—

Cock's bones, now again I stand

The jolliest bachelor o' th' land!

I have changed my language not my wishes, and scarce a *morsel* of my opinion about your going abroad.—HORACE WALPOLE to *Miss Berry*.

Mould. Used by old writers for 'the earth.'

And thou shalt say upon this *molde*

That alle women lefest wolde

Be sovereign of manne's love.—GOWER.

It may seem an odd position that the poverty of the common people in France, Italy and Spain, is in some measure owing to the superior richness of the soil and happiness of the climate. Yet there want not reasons to justify the paradox. In such a fine *mould* or soil as that of more southern nations agriculture is an easy art, and one man with a couple of sorry horses will be able in a season to cultivate as much land as will pay a pretty considerable rent to the proprietor. Such poor peasants therefore require only a simple maintenance for their labour.—DAVID HUME.

Mystery. It would seem that the old word 'mystery' (or misterie), meaning a craft, from the *mastery* or *skill* in the same, is not identical with 'mystery' (*μυστήριον*) signifying something hidden or concealed.

Master Sebastian Cabota, Esquire and Governor of the *Mysteries* and Company of the Marchaunt Adventurers of the Citie of London.—HACKLUYT.

'Tis in the malice of mankind that he thus advises us; not to have us thrive in our *mysteries*.—SHAKSPEARE, *Timon of Athens*, iv. 3.

Antiquity, thou wondrous charm, what art thou that being

nothing art everything? When thou *wert* thou wert not antiquity—*then* thou wert nothing, but hadst a remoter antiquity, as thou calledst it, to look back upon with blind veneration, thou thyself being flat, jejune, modern. What *mystery* lurks in this retroversion! The mighty future is as nothing being everything, the past is everything being nothing!—C. LAMB.

N.

Naughty. Wicked, good-for-nothing, unwholesome. Now generally applied to persons.

How far that little candle throws his beams!
So shines a good deed in a *naughty* world.

SHAKESPEARE, *Merchant of Venice*, v. 1.

His ague increased through evil surfeiting and *naughty* diet, by eating peaches and drinking new cider.—FOX, *Death of King John*.

Play by yourself, I dare not venture thither:
You and your *naughty* pipe go hang together.

DRYDEN.

It was not by scorn and contempt that Hogarth achieved his vast popularity and acquired his reputation. His art is quite simple: he speaks popular parables to interest simple hearts, and to inspire them with pity, or warning, or pleasure; not one of his tales but is as easy as Goody Two-shoes; it is the moral of 'Tommy was a *naughty* boy and the master flogged him, and Jacky was a good boy and had plum cake.'—THACKERAY.

Neat. Pure, clean, nice: the reverse of gross, dirty, or extravagant.

Her brest all naked as *nett* ivory,
Without adorne of gold or silver bright
Wherewith the craftsman wonts it beautify.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, iii. 12.

What *neat* repast shall feast us, light and choice
Of Attic taste, with wine, whence we may rise
To hear the lute well touched, or artful voice
Warble immortal notes and Tuscan air.

MILTON, *Sonnets*, 20.

So that one beholding their greatness [Monasteries], being co-rivals with some towns in receipt and extent, would admire that they could be so *neat*.—FULLER.

We also saw the Guest-house (Delfe), where it was pleasant to see what *neat* preparation there is for the poor.—S. PEPYS.

Considering Sir Walter Scott's great personal and literary popularity, it is perhaps remarkable that so few of his sayings, real or imputed, are in circulation. He occasionally expressed a thought very pithily and *neatly*; for example, he once described the Duke of Wellington's style of debating as 'slicing the argument into two or three parts, and helping himself to the best;' but the great charm of his 'table-talk' was in the sweetness and abandon with which it flowed.—J. ADOLPHUS.

Nephews. Applied by old writers to grandsons.

But if any widow have children or *nephews*.—*Authorised Version*, 1 *Tim.* v. 4.

Their eldest sons also that succeeded them were called Joves; and their *nephews*, or sonnes' sonnes, which reigned in the third place, Hercules.—HOLINSHED.

At the trial of the rebel Lords, when the Peers were going to vote, Lord Foley withdrew, as too well a wisher, and Lord Moray, as *nephew* to Lord Balmerino.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Nice. Once applied somewhat differently from its modern use.

Soon thou shalt have cause
To wish thou never had rejected thus
Nicely or cautiously my offered aid.—MILTON.

He look'd askew with his mistrustful eyes,
And *nicely* trod as thornes lay in his way.

FAIRFAX, *Tasso*.

Kean in Hamlet. Both the closet scene with his mother and his remonstrances to Ophelia were highly impressive. If there had been less vehemence of effort in the latter, it would not have lost any of its effect; but whatever *nice* faults might be found in this scene, they were amply redeemed by the manner of his coming back, from a pang of parting tenderness, to press his lips to Ophelia's hand. It had an electric effect, it was the finest commentary that was ever made on Shakspeare, it explained the character at once.—HAZLITT.

Niggard. Like 'miser' (q. v.), once had a meaning of 'wretched,' 'a miserable wretch.'

Death of Rizzio. Here is his destiny! for on this chest was his first bed when he came to this place, and there now he lyeth, a very *niggard* and misknown knave.—RUTHVEN'S *Narrative*.

Then let thy bed be turned from fine gravel to weeds or mud, lest some unjust *niggards* make weres to spoil thy beauty.—SIR P. SIDNEY.

Kepler amidst his great discoveries looks down like a superior being on other men. He breaks forth, in glory and daring egotism, 'I dare insult mankind by confessing that I am he who has turned science to advantage.' It was this solitary majesty, this futurity of their genius, which hovered over the sleepless pillow of Bacon, Newton, and Montesquieu, and Michael Angelo; such men anticipate their contemporaries, and know they are creators long before the *niggardly* and tardy consent of the public. They stand on Pisgah heights, and for them the sun shines on a land none yet view but themselves.—I. DISRAELI.

Notch. To pare or cut.

All rough my hair,
My nails *unnotched*, as of such seemeth best
Who wander by their wits.—EARL SURREY.

The middle claw of the heron and cormorant is toothed and *notched* like a saw. These birds are great fishers, and these *notches* assist them in holding their slippery prey.—PALEY, *Natural Theology*.

To the Reader. Because in my last I tried to divert thee with some half-forgotten humours of some old clerks defunct in an old house of business long since gone to decay, doubtless you have already set me down as one of the selfsame college—a votary of the desk, a *notch'd* and cropt scrivener, one that suck'd in sustenance as certain sick persons are said to do through a quill.—C. LAMB.

Novels. New things. The meaning of a romance is modern.

To nought more thenot my mind is bent,
Than to hear *novels* of his device,
They ben so well thew'd and so wise.—SPENSER.

The *Novels* or *new* constitutions [of Justinian], posterior in time to the other books, and amounting to a supplement to the code; containing new decrees of successive emperors, as new questions happened to arise.—BLACKSTONE, *Commentaries*, Introduction.

The effect of reading Richardson's *novels* is to acquire a vast accession of near relations.—HAZLITT.

Nursery. Once the act as well as the place of nursing.

I loved her most, and thought to set my rest
On her kind *nursery*.—SHAKSPEARE, *King Lear*, i. 1.

No man writes by intuition, so magazines, pamphlets, and newspapers form the national *nurseries* for unfledged authors. In these they try their strength, before engaging in more arduous flights.—PRIOR.

O.

Object. } Used for 'opposition.' In the passage
Objection. } from Shakspeare quoted below it
seems to mean 'proposed.'

His worst shall be withstood,
With sole *objection* of myself.—CHAPMAN.

Pluck no more,
Till you conclude that he upon whose side
The fewest roses are cropp'd from the tree
Shall yield the other in the right opinion.

Som. Good Master Vernon, it is well *objected* ;
If I have fewest, I subscribe in silence.

SHAKSPEARE, 1 *Henry VI*, ii. 4.

Many of the *objections* found against the general education of the people are utterly untenable. I see the village school, and the tattered scholars, and the aged Master or Mistress teaching the art of reading and writing, and thinking that they are teaching that alone. I feel that the aged instructor is protecting life, insuring property, fencing the altar, guarding the throne, giving space and liberty to all the fine powers of man.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Obnoxious. Properly, liable to punishment, but now generally 'offensive.'

But, oh, ye tutelar spirits, ye well know our weakness and their strength, our silliness and their craft, their deadly machinations and our miserable *obnoxiousness*.—Bp. HALL.

Think but how poor thou wast, how *obnoxious*.—DONNE.

Mr. Pelham died yesterday. You cannot imagine how much a million of people can talk in one day on such a subject. It was even much imagined yesterday that Sir George Lee would win the post. He is an unexceptionable man—sensible, of good character, the ostensible favourite of the Princess, and *obnoxious* to no set of men; for though he changed ridiculously quick at the Prince's death, yet, as everybody changed with him, it offended nobody.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Obsequious. Used by Shakspeare and Milton for 'funereal,' from 'obsequies.' The word had not always the meaning of servile submission now attached to it.

My sighing breast shall be thy funeral bell,
 And so *obsequious* will thy father be,
 Sad for the loss of thee, having no more,
 As Priam was for all his valiant sons.

SHAKSPEARE, 3 *Henry VI*, ii. 5.

How many a holy and *obsequious* tear
 Hath dear religious love stolen from mine eye,
 As interest of the dead.—Id., *Sonnet xxxi*.

And the survivor bound
 In filial obligation for some term
 To do *obsequious* sorrow.—Id., *Hamlet*, i. 2.

While I awhile *obsequiously* lament
 Th' untimely fall of virtuous Lancaster.

Id., *Richard III*, i. 2.

Light issues forth, and at the other door
Obsequious darkness enters.—MILTON.

Charles II. He had been taught by bitter experience how much baseness, perfidy, and ingratitude may lie hid under the *obsequious* demeanour of courtiers; he had found, on the other hand, in the breasts of the poorest, true nobility of soul. From such a school it might have been expected that a young man who wanted neither abilities nor amiable qualities would have come forth a great and good king.—MACAULAY.

Observe. Used by Shakspeare in the sense of 'to treat obsequiously.'

Must I budge?
 Must I *observe* you? must I stand and crouch
 Under your testy humour?

SHAKSPEARE, *Julius Cæsar*, iv. 3.

These kind of knaves in their plainness
 Harbour more craft and more corruptedness
 Than twenty silky ducking *observants*
 That stretch their duty nicely.—Id., *King Lear*, ii. 2.

One day a partner of the House of Longman was dining with Constable in the country to settle an important piece of business about which there occurred a great deal of difficulty. 'What fine swans you have in your pond there,' said the Londoner by

way of parenthesis : 'Swans !' cried Constable, 'they are only geese, man ; there are just five of them if you please to *observe*, and their names are Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme and Brown.'—LOCKHART.

Obvious. Literally, 'coming in the way,' in which sense it occurs in old writers.

On they move
Indissolubly firm, nor *obvious* hill
Nor strait'ning vale, nor wood, nor stream divides
Their perfect ranks.—MILTON.

However chastening to the evil turn
My *obvious* breast, arming to overcome
By suffering, and earn rest by labour won.—Id.

So her disembowelled webs
Arachne in a hall or kitchen spreads,
Obvious to vagrant flies.—PHILLIPS.

Library of Sir Walter Scott. The walls were entirely clothed with books in that complete state of repair which at a glance reveals a tinge of bibliomania. Whenever a volume had been lent, its room was occupied by a wooden block of the same size, having a card with the name of the borrower and date of the loan tack'd on its front. The old bindings had *obviously* been retouched, the new when the books were of any mark were rich, but never gaudy ; a large proportion of blue morocco all stamped with his device of the portcullis and its motto—*clausus tutus ero*—being an anagram of his name in Latin.—LOCKHART'S *Life of Sir Walter Scott*.

Occupy. Once, to use, employ. So an occupier was a dealer or trader.

If they had *occupied* their spear and their shield, this nobleman doubtless had not been slayne.—SKELTON.

His Grace's pleasure is that you shall go to the Jewel House in the Tower, and there take as much plate as you shall think his Grace shall not necessarily *occupy*, and put it straight to coining.—*Proclamation, Henry VIII.*

To use, exercise, and *occupy* the art and faculty of playing comedies, tragedies, interludes, stage-plays and such other like.—
PERCY, *Stage Licence*, 1574.

Waste paper, or other stuffe, wherein
Occupiers wrap their severall wares.

Nomenclator, 1585.

Borgia said of the famous expedition of Charles VIII, that the French had conquered Italy not with steel but with chalk, for that the only exploit they found necessary for the purpose of taking military *occupation* had been to mark the doors of the houses they meant to quarter in. Bacon often quoted this saying, and loved to apply it to the victories of his own intellect; his philosophy, he said, came as a guest, not as an enemy.—
MACAULAY.

Odd. Extraordinary : now, singular.

What joy can human things to us afford
When we see perish thus by *odd* events,
Ill men, and wretched accidents,
The best cause, and best man that ever drew a sword.

COWLEY.

Instinct cannot be accounted for by any properties in matter, and at the same time works after so *odd* a manner, that we cannot think it the faculty of an intellectual being. God himself is in the soul of brutes.—ADDISON.

Dr. Johnson is the perfect embodiment of the English character with all its honesty, goodness and nobility, rather individualised than disfigured by the few and venial foibles and *oddities* which alloy its sterling gold.—SHAW.

Offend. Literally, to strike against, to do injury or wrong.

If meat make thy brother *offend*.—*Authorised Version*, 1 Cor. viii. 13.

To *offend* originally signifies to infringe, that is, to stumble, or hit dangerously upon somewhat lying cross our way, so as thereby to be cast down, or at least to be disordered in our

posture, and stopt in our progress ; whence it is well transferred to denote our being, through any incident temptation, brought into sin, whereby a man is thrown down, or bowed from his upright state, and interrupted from prosecuting a steady course of piety and virtue.—BARROW, *Sermon* i. 13.

Though the weight of a falsehood would be too heavy for one to bear, it grows light in some imaginations if it is shared among many. Every one is criminal in proportion to the *offence* which he commits, not to the number of those who are his companions. Both the crime and the penalty lie as heavy upon every individual of an *offending* multitude as they would upon any single person, had none shared with him in the *offence*.—ADDISON.

Officious. Full of good offices, ceremonious : now only used in its unfavourable sense of interfering in other peoples' affairs.

Yet not to earth are these bright luminaries
Officious, but to thee, earth's habitant.—MILTON.

Mr. Calamy preached ; he was very *officious* with his three reverences.—SAMUEL PEPYS.

Well tried thro' many a varying year,
See Levitt to the grave descend,
Officious, innocent, sincere,
Of every friendless name a friend.—Dr. JOHNSON.

Why should the world envy great men ? Is it a desirable thing to be burthened, and have to maintain a crowd of servants and flattering retainers and addresses of pretended friends, *officious* sycophants, importunate petitioners, and other fretting business of the world ?—*Turkish Spy*.

Offspring. Occurs as equivalent to origin.

Nor those rude garments could obscure and hide
The heavenly beauty of that angel face,
Nor was her princely *offspring* damnified,
Or aught disparaged by those labours base.

FAIRFAX, *Tasso*, vii. 18.

It has been observed that Providence generally punishes the self-love of men who would do immoderately for their *offspring* with children very much below their own characters and qualifications, insomuch that they only transmit their name to be borne by those who give daily proofs of the vanity of the labour and ambition of their progenitors.—STEELE.

Once. At some time.

I thank thee, and I pray thee, *once* to-night
Give my sweet Nan this ring.

SHAKESPEARE, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, iii. 4.

Charity *once* was a simple matter, or at least seemed to be so, but now is encumbered with all manner of questions relating to political economy, and has to deal with such a complex state of affairs, that the most benevolent men are perfectly bewildered, not only as to what to give, but whether to give at all, and how to give.—Sir A. HELPS.

One. Only.

But if the King himself be pleased not *one* to wink at them with his permission but also to smile on them with his encouragement, there is great hope of success.—FULLER.

If a man might promote the good of his country by the blackest calumnies and falsehoods, our nation abounds more in patriots than any other of the Christian world. When Pompey was desired not to set sail in a tempest that would hazard his life, 'It is necessary for me,' says he, 'to sail, but it is not necessary for me to live.' Every man should say to himself it is my duty to speak truth, though it is not my duty to be in office. *One* of the Fathers has carried this point so high as to declare he would not tell a lie, though he were sure to gain heaven by it.—ADDISON.

Opposite. Opponent.

To the best and wisest while they live, the world is continually a froward *opposite*, a curious observer of their defects and imperfections.—HOOKER.

But say thou wert possessed of David's throne
 By free consent of all, none *opposite*,
 Samaritan or Jew, how couldst thou hope
 Long to enjoy it quiet and secure ?—MILTON.

Books, as containing the finest records of human wit, must always enter into our notion of culture. The best heads that ever existed, Pericles, Plato, Julius Cæsar, Shakspeare, Goethe, were well-read, universally educated men, and quite too wise to undervalue letters. Their opinion has weight because they had the means of knowing the *opposite* opinion. We look that a great man should be a good reader, or, in proportion to the spontaneous power, should be the assimilating power.—EMERSON.

Or. Ere, before. The word has disappeared, being distinct from the adverb 'or' of present use.

Dame Gladness.

Her eyen gray and glad also
 That laughen aye in their semblant,
 First *or* the mouth by covenante.—CHAUCER.

And good men's lives
 Expire before the flowers in their caps,
 Dying *or* e'er they sicken.—SHAKSPEARE, *Macbeth*, iv. 3.

Orator. Occurs in the sense of one who prays.

But your Mastership hath, and ever shall have me for one of your daily *orators* during my life, as God knoweth, who ever preserve you in much worship.

Your *orator* during his life.

HENRY SADLEYR to Lord Cromwell.

Pulpit discourses have insensibly dwindled from speaking to reading, a practice of itself sufficient to stifle every germ of eloquence. It is only by the fresh feeling of the heart that mankind can be very powerfully affected. What can be more ludicrous than an *orator* delivering stale indignation and fervour of a week old, running over whole pages of violent passions, written out in German text, and so affected at a preconcerted time that he is unable to proceed any further!—SYDNEY SMITH.

Ostentation. Once used in a favourable sense.

The King would have me present the Princess with some delightful *ostentation*, show, pageant, antic, or fire-work.—SHAKESPEARE, *Love's Labour's Lost*, v. 1.

The judge sits upon the tribunal with great ceremony and *ostentation* of fortune, and yet at his house or in his breast there is something that causes him to sigh deeply.—J. TAYLOR.

No man better bore the approaches of dissolution, or with less *ostentation* yielded up his being.—POPE.

Lecture on behaviour to Masters. Know, first, that all masters, even the least lovable, like to be loved. If he speak to you kindly, let your face brighten up; the more you appear grateful for the least kindness, the oftener you will receive important favours. Our *ostentatious* Drogueman will feel a pleasure in raising your astonishment, he wishes to persuade the world that he completely rules the Pasha—tell him not flatly he does, but assume it as a thing of general notoriety. However much your master may caress you in private, never seem quite at ease with him in public.—HOPE.

Outcry. Once a public sale proclaimed by the common crier.

Or else sold at *out-crys*, oh, yes!

Who'll give most, take her.

Parson's Wedding, Old Play, xi. 441.

Or at an *outcry* sold

Under the spear, like beasts to be spurned and trod on
By their proud mistresses, the Roman matrons.

MASSINGER.

That titles were not vented at the drum,

Or common *outcry*.—B. JONSON, *New Inn*, i. 3.

It is not that human beings can live without occasional wars, but they may live with fewer wars, and take more just views of the evils which war inflicts upon mankind. If three men were to have their legs and arms broken, and were to remain all night exposed to the inclemency of the weather, the *outcry* of the

whole nation would be dreadful. Look at the wholesale death of a field of battle, ten acres covered with dead and half-dead men. There is more misery inflicted on mankind by one year of war, than by the civil peculations and oppressions of a century—yet it is a state into which the mass of mankind rush with the greatest avidity.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Outlandish. The word originally meant ‘foreign,’ and so our insular notions came to attach to it some of the contempt that is too often felt for foreign states. ‘Barbarous’ has the same history.

He is the centre wherein lines of intelligence meet from all foreign countries ; he is careful that his *outlandish* instructions be full, true, and speedy.—FULLER, *The Wise Statesman*.

Yourself transplant

A while from hence ; perchance *outlandish* ground
Bears not more wit than ours, but yet more scant
Are those diversions there, which here abound.—DONNE.

Queen Anne left a world of brave jewells behind, but one Piero, an *outlandish* man who had the keeping of them, embeazled many, and is run away.—HOWELL'S *Familiar Letters* (1650).

Certainly the true end of visiting foreign parts is to look into their customs and policies, and observe in what particulars they excel or come short of our own. And though to be sea-sick or jumbled in an *outlandish* stage-coach may perhaps be healthful for the constitution of the body, yet it is apt to cause a dizziness in young empty heads. Travel is really the last step to be taken in the institution of youth.—STEELE.

Oversight. Now commonly applied to an error or mistake, but formerly meant supervision or inspection.

An *oversight* and deliberation upon the holy Prophet Jonas, made and lettered before the King's Majesty. 1550.

It is not in my bond as critic to distribute poetic licenses on Mount Parnassus, or to exact penalties and forfeitures for

trifling *oversights*, as if the genius of poetry lay buried under the rubbish of the press, and the critic was the dwarf enchanter who was to release its airy form, or to prevent its vital powers from being worm-eaten and consumed in musty manuscripts and black-letter print.—HAZLITT.

Owe. To own.

The blood which *owed* the breadth of all this isle
Three foot of it doth hold.

SHAKSPEARE, *King John*, iv. 2.

Be pleased, then,
To pay that duty which you truly owe
To him that *owes* it, namely, this young prince.
Id., ib., ii. 1.

If now the beard be such, what is the prince
That *owes* the beard?

BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Beggar's Bush*, ii. 1.

So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that *oweth* this
girdle.—*Authorised Version*, *Acts* xxi. 11.

Which he from pagan Lords which did them *owe*,
Had won in prosperous fights and happy frays.

FAIRFAX, *Tasso*.

We *owe* to Gay the ballad opera, a mode of comedy which first was supposed to delight only by its novelty, but has now by the experience of half a century been found so well accommodated to the disposition of a popular audience that it is likely to keep long possession of the Stage. The Beggar's Opera was written in ridicule of the musical Italian Opera.—Dr. JOHNSON.

P.

Painful. Once equivalent to 'painstaking,' 'careful.'

Learned Master Camden, and *painful* Master Speed.—
FULLER.

Oh, the holiness of their lives, and the *painfulness* of their speaking! How full were they of mortified thought and heavenly meditations!—FULLER.

At church in the morning, a good, honest, *painful* sermon.—S. PEPYS.

Charles (the First) still had a strong party in the country; he had the Church, the Universities, a majority of the nobles, and of the old landed gentry. Many good, brave, and moderate men, who disliked his former conduct, and who entertained doubts touching his present sincerity, espoused his cause unwillingly, and with many *painful* misgivings, because, though they dreaded his tyranny very much, they dreaded democratic violence more.—MACAULAY.

Pair. Used by Bacon and Ben Jonson for any number of equal things.

The King had better call for a new *pair* of cards, than play upon these if they be pack'd.—BACON.

Have you ne'er a son at the Groom-porter's, to beg or borrow a *pair* of cards quickly?—BEN JONSON, *Masque of Xerxes*, vi. 6.

Don Quixote. Cervantes, stung perchance by the relish with which his reading public had received the fooleries of the man, more to their palates than the generousities of the master, in the sequel let his pen run riot, and sacrificed a great idea to the taste of his contemporaries. For what else has he unsealed the eye of Sancho, and instead of that twilight state of semi-insanity, the madness at second-hand, the contagion caught from a stronger mind, two for a *pair*, almost substituted a downright knave, with open eyes following a confessed madman.—C. LAMB.

Pale. Now applied to any light colour, but once opposed to red, as 'white.'

The krispe skin of her forehead
Is drawn up, and trustily bound
Of colours dun, yellow, *pale*, and red.—CHAUCER.

They are not of complexion red or *pale*,
But a sweet mixture of the flesh and blood,
As if both roses were confounded there.

RANDOLPH, *The Muses' Looking Glass*, v. 1.

I must confess I have often bewailed the misfortunes of children in going through the grammar-school. But since the custom of educating by the lash is suffered by the gentry of this country, I would prevail only that honest heavy lads may be dismissed from slavery sooner, and not be whipped to their fourteenth or fifteenth year. No one but must remember to have seen children, with *pale* looks, beseeching sorrow, and silent tears, kneel before an inexorable blockhead to be forgiven the false quantity of a word in making a Latin verse.—STEELE.

Paragon. The verb, meaning to 'surpass' or 'put in competition with,' is now obsolete. A 'paragon' is no longer a rival, but a standard of perfection.

Before the primeest creature
That's *paragon'd* o' the world.

SHAKSPEARE, *Henry VIII*, ii. 4.

Like the true saint beside the image set
Of both their beauties to make *paragon*.—SPENSER.

Proud seat
Of Lucifer, so by allusion called
Of that bright star to Satan *paragon'd*.—MILTON.

Cartoon of the 'Charge to Peter.' It is not only a *paragon* of art, but an exercise of the highest piety in the painter, and all the touches of a religious mind are expressed in a manner much more forcible than can possibly be performed by the most moving eloquence. Present authority, late suffering, humility and majesty, despotic command and divine love, are at once sealed in the celestial aspect of our Lord.—ADDISON.

Parliament. Any place or assembly for consultation.

Medea, when she was assent,
Came soon to that *parlement*.—GOWER.

The *parlement* of Birds.—CHAUCER.

He says some of the best things in the world, and declareth that wit is his aversion. It was he who said upon seeing the Eton boys at play in their grounds, 'What a pity to think that these fine ingenuous lads in a few years will be all changed into frivolous members of *Parliament*!'—C. LAMB.

Parsimonious. Once, frugal, in a good sense : now, niggardly.

There never was a Republic greater, more venerable, and more abounding in good examples than the Roman, nor one that so long withstood avarice and luxury, or so much honoured poverty and *parsimony*.—BACON.

First crept
The *parsimonious* emmet, provident
Of future, in small room large hoard enclosed.

MILTON.

The people [of Genoa] go the plainest of any other, and are also most *parsimonious* in their diet.—HOWELL, *Travels*, i. 1. 41 (1650).

Ever since the Restoration, the Commons, even when most discontented and most *parsimonious*, had always been bountiful to profusion where the interest of the navy was concerned.—MACAULAY.

Partake. Formerly, to take a side or part ; to give a share.

Your exultation
Partake to every one. I, an old turtle,
Will wing me to some wither'd bough ; and there
My mate that's never to be found again
Lament, till I am lost.

SHAKSPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, v. 1.

Canst thou, O cruel, say I love thee not,
When I against myself with thee *partake* ?

BEAUMONT and FLETCHER.

I consider the press as the great *palladium* of the constitu-

tion, but at the same time I hold the licentiousness of the press in the greatest abhorrence. Nobody is more conscious than I am of the splendid abilities of the honourable member, but I tell him at once I cannot *partake* in his scheme; it is too good to be practicable, it savours of Utopia, it will not do in practice. Instead of reforming others, instead of reforming the state, the constitution, and every thing that is most excellent, let each man reform himself! (loud cheers.) Let him look at home! (continued cheers.)—SYDNEY SMITH, *Noodle's Oration*.

Pass. To pass away, to die, as in the following passages.

Arise, arise, they said, and let us pray
For Wulfred our priest, that now doth *pass*,
That for us hath said many a requiem mass.—LYDGATE.

Vex not his ghost; O let him pass! He hates him much
That would upon the rack of this tough world
Stretch him out longer.—SHAKESPEARE, *King Lear*, v. 3.

Wesley. I have been at one Opera, Mr. Wesley's. They have girls and boys with charming voices that sing hymns in parts to Scotch ballad tunes, but indeed so long that one would think they were already in eternity, and knew how much time they had before them. The Chapel is very neat with true Gothic windows (yet I am not converted), but I was glad to see luxury was creeping upon them before persecution. *Passing* up the middle are seen two eagles with red cushions. Wesley is a lean elderly man, fresh-coloured, his hair smoothly combed, wondrous clean, but as evidently an actor as Garrick. He spoke his sermon.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Passion. Zeal, ardent wishes.

To Atterbury on his banishment. Nothing is worth your looking back, and therefore look forward and make (as you can) the world look after you. But take care that it is not with pity but esteem and admiration. I am with the greatest esteem and *passion* for your fame, as well as happiness, Yours, &c., ALEXANDER POPE.

That the Scotch are a people eminently intelligent, wary,

resolute and self-possessed, is obvious to the most superficial observation. But that they are a people peculiarly liable to dangerous fits of *passion* and delusions of the imagination is less generally acknowledged, but is not less true.—MACAULAY.

Passionate. Subject to sudden fits of passion.

You, sweet, have the power
To make me *passionate* as an April day.—FORD.

Thou art *passionate*,
Hast been brought up with girls?

BEAUMONT and FLETCHER.

Milton. We image to ourselves the breathless silence in which we should listen to his slightest word. The *passionate* veneration with which we should kneel to kiss his hand and weep upon it ; the earnestness with which we should endeavour to console him ; the eagerness with which we should contest with his daughter the privilege of reading Homer with him, or of taking down the immortal accents which flowed from his lips.—MACAULAY.

Pat. Suitable, opportune, *à propos*. Perhaps a corruption of 'apt.'

Pat he comes, like the catastrophe of the old comedy.

SHAKSPEARE, *King Lear*, i. 2.

Sometimes it [wit] lieth in *pat* allusion to a well-known story.—BARROW'S *Sermons*, i. 14.

If we should search about for a case parallel to that which we do now commemorate [the Gunpowder Plot], we should hardly find one more *patly* such, as that which is implied in this psalm.—Id.

The ladies from town strove hard to be equally easy : they swam, sprawled, languished and frisked, but all would not do, the gazers indeed avowed that it was fine, but neighbour Ham-borough observed that Miss Livy's feet seemed as *pat* to the music as its echo.—GOLDSMITH.

Peculiar. Once had the meaning of 'private property,' from *peculium*, the limited amount of earnings

which a Roman slave or a son in the power of his father was allowed to hold for himself. The adjective only is now used.

By tincture or reflection they augment their small *peculiar*.—
BACON.

Revenge is so absolutely the *peculiar* of Heaven, that no consideration whatever can empower even the best men to assume the execution of it.—SOUTH.

In none of Milton's works is his *peculiar* manner more happily displayed than in the *Allegro* and the *Penseroso*. It is impossible to conceive that the mechanism of language can be brought to a more exquisite degree of perfection. These poems differ from others as otto of roses differs from ordinary rose-water, the close-packed essence from the thin, diluted mixture.—
MACAULAY.

Pedant. Sometimes in old writers equivalent to a pedagogue, or teacher of languages.

Your *pedant* should provide you some parcels of French, or some pretty commodity of Italian.—B. JONSON, *Cynthia's Revels*, iii. 3.

Like a *pedant* that keeps a school in the church.

SHAKESPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, iii. 2.

Master, a mercatante, or a *pedant*,

I know not what ; but formal in apparel,

In gait and countenance surely like a father.

Id., *Taming of the Shrew*, iv. 2.

The boy who scarce has paid his entrance down

To his proud *pedant*, or declined a noun.—DRYDEN.

A man that has been brought up among books, and is able to talk of nothing else, is a very indifferent companion, and what we call a *pedant*.—*Spectator*, No. 105.

To all who have observed the influence of time, of circumstances and of associates on mankind, to all who have seen a hero in the gout, a democrat in the church, a *pedant* in love, or a philosopher in liquor, this practice of painting in nothing but black and white is unpardonable even in the drama.—MACAULAY.

Pencil. This was long used for the painter's brush.

With subtil *pencil* painted was this storie.

CHAUCER, *The Knight's Tale*.

Your lordships may be pleased to pass your censure, whether Italians can make fruits as well as Flemings, which is the common glory of their *pencils*.—*Reliquiæ Wottonianæ*.

The kindred arts shall in their praise conspire,

One dip the *pencil*, and one string the lyre.

POPE, *Epistle to Mr. Jervas*.

It was Hogarth's custom to sketch on the spot any remarkable face of which he wished to preserve the remembrance; and a friend informed Nichols that being with Hogarth at the Bedford Coffee-house, he observed him drawing with a *pencil* on his nail a sketch of the features of a person in the coffee-room.—TIMBS.

Pensive. Once had a strong sense of melancholy: now, rather 'thoughtful,' its literal meaning.

Being *pensive* at home, if you go to the theatre to drive away fancies, it is as good purpose as for the ache of the head to knock out your brains. When you are grieved, pass the time with your neighbours in sober conference; if you can read, let books be your comfort.—GOSSEN, *To the gentlewomen citizens* (1579).

In this respect the works of Shakspeare are miracles of art. In a piece which may be read aloud in three hours, we see a character gradually unfold all its recesses to us, we see it change with the change of circumstances; the petulant youth rises into the politic and warlike sovereign, the tyrant is altered by the chastening of affliction with a *pensive* moralist, the brave and loyal subject passes step by step to the extremities of human depravity; yet there are no unnatural transitions.—MACAULAY.

Perquisites. The word occurs in the sense of *perquisition*, a diligent search.

That fine, penetrating principle, which introduces and assimilates to food of plants, and is so fugitive as to escape all the filtrations and *perquisites* of the most nice observer.—BERKELEY, *Siris*.

But grant to life some *perquisites* of joy,
A time there is, when like a thrice-told tale,
Long rifled life of sweets can yield no more.

Dr. YOUNG.

Person. In Roman law *persona* (literally an actor's mask) was used to mean not only a human being, but also the condition of a man, the character he sustained on the world's stage. *Unus homo sustinet plures personas.* In this latter sense, as well as that of an actual theatrical part, 'person' was often used by old English authors. We still say to 'personate.'

Expressing besides a most real affection in the *personators* to those for whose sake they would sustain these *persons*.—BEN JONSON, *Masque at Lord Haddington's Marriage*.

God is no respecter of *persons*.—*Authorised Version, Acts x. 34.*

I then did use the *person* of your father,
The image of his power lay then in me.

SHAKESPEARE, 2 *Henry IV*, v. 2

Adorn'd

She was indeed, and lovely to attract
Thy love, not thy subjection, and her gifts
Were such as under government well seem'd,
Unseemly to bear rule, which was thy part
And *person*, hadst thou known thyself aright.

MILTON, *Paradise Lost*, Bk. x.

Perspective. Formerly a glass to look through, a telescope or microscope.

Most things they saw with us, as mathematical instruments, sea compasses, the vertue of the loadstone in drawing yron, a *perspective* glass whereby was shewed many strange sights.—HACKLUYT, *Voyages*.

From hence without a *perspective*, we see
Bever and Lincolne, where we fain would be.

CORBET.

He applies a long *perspective* trunk, with a convex glass fitted to the same hole.—*Reliquiæ Wottonianæ*.

The parterres, flower gardens, orangeries, *perspectives*, fountains, and all this at the banks of the sweetest river in the world.—JOHN EVELYN, *Ham House*.

China. I had no repugnance then—why should I now have—to those little lawless azure-tinctured grotesques, which under the notion of men and women float about uncircumscribed by any element in that world before *perspective*,—a china tea-cup. I like to see my old friends whom distance cannot diminish, figuring up in the air. Here is a young and courtly Mandarin handing tea to a lady two miles off. See how distance seems to set off respect.—C. LAMB.

Perspicuous. Occurs in the sense of conspicuous.

The Palace of Richmond *perspicuous* to all the country round about.—HOLINSHED.

Dundas. In his various offices no one was more useful: he was an admirable man of business, and those professional habits he brought from the bar were not more serviceable to him in making his speeches *perspicuous* and his reasoning logical than they were in disciplining his mind to the drudgery of the desk.—BROUGHAM.

Pert. Once, skilful, active, bold; but now only used in the unfavourable sense of 'malapert.'

Look who that is most virtuous alway,
Prive and *pert*, and most intendeth ay
To do the gentle dedes that he can;
Take him for the greatest gentleman.—CHAUCER.

For yonder walls that *pertly* front yon town.

SHAKSPEARE, *Troilus and Cressida*, iv. 5.

On the tawny sands and shelves

Tripp'd the *pert* fairies and the dapper elves.—MILTON.

Some pleasures are too *pert*, as well as others too flat, to be relished long, and vivacity in some cases is worse than dulness.—POPE.

Three College Sophs, and three *pert* Templers came,
The same their talents, and their tastes the same.

Id., *Dunciad*, Bk. ii.

What a dead thing is a clock, with its ponderous embowelment of lead and brass, its *pert* or solemn dulness, compared with the simple altar-like structure and silent heart-language of the old dial! It stood as the garden god of Christian gardens: if its business use is superseded by more elaborate inventions, its moral uses, its beauty, might have pleaded for its continuance. It spoke of moderate labours, of pleasures not protracted after sunset, of temperance and of good hours; it was the primitive clock—the horologe of the first world.—C. LAMB.

Petticoat. Formerly, a garment for either sex. The first notice of the word is in the time of Henry VIII.

Rules for Valets. Warm your Master his *petticoat*, his doublet, and his stomacher, and then put on his hose, then his shoes or slippers, then straighten up his hose mannerly, and tie them up; then lace his doublet hole by hole.—*Boke of Kervynge*.

In *petticoats* of stamel red

And milk-white kerchers on their head.—*Old England*.

Is't not a misery, and the greatest of our age, to see a handsome, young, fair enough, and well-mounted wench humble herself in an old stammel *petticoat*.—BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *The Woman Hater*, iv. 2.

She is a great artist at her needle; 'tis incredible what sums she spends in embroidering, for besides what is appropriated to her personal use as mantles, *petticoats*, stomachers, handkerchiefs, purses, pin-cushions, and working aprons, she keeps four French protestants continually employed in making divers pieces of superfluous furniture, as quilts, toiles, hangings for closets, beds, window-curtains, easy chairs, and tabourets.—*Spectator*.

Picture. A representation, not always in painting as now.

'He look'd as the devil over Lincoln.' This proverb is taken from a stone *picture* of the devil which doth, or lately did, overlook Lincoln College.—FULLER.

A spoone, the gift of Master Reginald Woolf, all gilte with the *picture* of St. John.—*Baptismal Gift* (1560).

It wastes me more than were my *picture* fashioned out of wax, stuck with a magical needle, and then buried.—J. WEBSTER.

The most unimaginative man must understand the *Iliad*. Homer gives him no choice, and requires from him no exertion, but takes the whole upon himself, and sets his images in so clear a light that it is impossible to be blind to them. The works of Milton cannot be comprehended or enjoyed unless the mind of the reader co-operates with that of the writer. He does not paint a finished *picture*, or play for a mere passive listener ; he sketches, and leaves others to fill up the outline.—MACAULAY.

Pinch. Once, to constrain, also to cavil.

Thou *pinchest* at my mutability,
For I thee lent a drop of my riches.—CHAUCER.

To some she [Fortune] sendeth children, riches, wealth,
Honour, worship, reverence, all his life,
But yet she *pincheth* him with a shrewde wife.—Sir T. MORE.

December. He advanced in the shape of an old man in the extremity of age. The hair he had was so very white it seemed a real snow ; his eyes were red and piercing, and a great quantity of icicles hung in his beard ; he was wrapped up in furs, but yet was so *pinched* with cold that his limbs were all contracted and his body bent to the ground, so that he could not have supported himself had it not been for Comus, the god of revels, and Necessity, the mother of Fate, who sustained him on each side.—*Spectator*.

Pittance. This word illustrates the advance of luxury ; having signified, first, an allowance, then a moderate, and now an insufficient allowance.

My ear with a good *pittance*
Is fed with reading of romance.—GOWER.

Make your whole repast out of one dish. If you indulge in a second, avoid drinking anything strong till you have finished your meal. A man could not well be accused of

gluttony if he stuck to his *pittance*—there would be no variety of tastes to solicit his palate, nor artificial provocations to relieve satiety. Were I to prescribe a rule for drinking, it should be formed on a saying quoted by Sir William Temple, ‘The first glass for myself, the second for my friends, the third for good humour, and the fourth for mine enemies.’—STEELE.

Another consequence of a redundant population is a very poor rate of wages. The average fellah’s (or labourer’s) hire in the country is about 5*d.* a day. Even in Egypt this is a miserable *pittance*. I will not compare the fellah, as travellers do too often, with the English labourer. That he goes about half-naked, that he never eats meat, that he lives in a windowless, one-roomed, mud hut, may seem to the English country gentleman signs of terrible suffering. But under an Egyptian sky a coat is a nuisance, butcher’s meat a superfluity, and a covered sleeping-place is only necessary for two months in the winter; a long piece of blue cotton, about a yard broad, is all he wants for his body, and a smaller strip of white stuff to wrap round his head completes his attire. Unlimited bread, with onions, beans, cucumber, lettuce, to flavour it, is his staple food. A mud hut not much bigger than a bee-hive serves him and his family for a house. Still, even these small needs—and we should be glad to hear of education giving him a taste for more than these—need money, and 5*d.* a day can hardly make the fellah a happy man.—*The Times*, Jan. 6, 1876.

Pity. Occurs in old writers, like *pietas*, as natural affection between father and child, tenderness of disposition, &c.

Go little Bille, without title or date,
And of whole heart recommend me,
Which that am call’d Johan Lydgate,
To all folk which list to have *pitie*.—LYDGATE.

Like as a Father *pitieth* his children.—*Authorised Version*, *Psalms* ciii. 13.

A Drama. Each character must be a centre of repulsion to the rest, and it is their hostile interests brought into collision that must tug at their heart-strings and call forth every faculty of thought, speech, or action. The poet, to do justice to his

undertaking, must not only identify himself with each, but must take part with all by turns—must feel scorn, *pity*, love, hate, anger, remorse, revenge, ambition, in their most sudden and fierce extremes; he can only act in sympathy with the public mind and manners of his age, but these are not in sympathy, but in opposition to dramatic poetry.—HAZLITT.

Plant. At one time equivalent to ‘colonize.’

Young *plantations* will never grow if straitened with such hard laws as commonwealths.—BACON, *Settlement of Virginia*.

And ne’er did Heaven so much a voyage bless,
If you can *plant* but there with like success.—COWLEY.

Every man in looking at a landscape paints to himself the scene of imaginable felicity he likes best. A merchant looks at an asylum from the toils of business, a mother looks out some healthy and sheltered spot for her children, an improver *plants*, a poet feels; a landscape is everything to everybody, it is one person’s property as well as another’s, it gratifies every man’s desire and fills up every man’s heart.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Plat. Flat, plain. Survives only in such compound words as *plat*-form, *grass-plat*.

Ye mote with the *plat* sword again
Stroke him in the wound, and it will close.—CHAUCER.

He lyethe down one ear all *plat*
Unto the ground, and halte it fast.

GOWER, *Confessio Amantis*, Bk. i.

Look at a little green *grass-plat* before the house; nothing can be more insignificant. Magnify it into a field, we are not much struck with it. Let it be a smooth, uniform, boundless plain, stretching on every side further than the eye can reach, and it becomes a sublime object; immensity of any kind excites the notion of power and the distant sense of fear.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Platform. The following quotations from old authors may account for the well-known American use of the word.

To secure himself a pardon he went and discovered the whole *platform* of the conspiracy.—LYLY.

The *platforms* and patterns which are found in the nature of monarchies, the original submission and their motives and occasions, the *platforms* are these.—BACON.

He likes to see humanity brought home from the universality of precepts and general terms to the reality of persons, of tones and actions, and to have it raised from the grossness of sense to the lofty and striking *platform* of the imagination. He likes to feel the pulse of nature beating in all times and places alike. The smile of good-natured surprise at folly, the tear of pity at misfortune, do not misbecome the face of man or woman. The stage at once gives a body to our thoughts, and refinement and expansion to our sensible impressions ; it has not the pride and remoteness of abstract science, it has not the petty egotism of vulgar life.—HAZLITT.

Plausible. Now used in the unfavourable sense of 'specious' ; but once, 'worthy of approval.'

To require certainty of succession is most *plausible* to all people.—Lord BURLEIGH.

To require marriage is most natural, most easy, most *plausible* to the Queen's Majesty.—Id.

Burke. His constant admonition to England respecting America was, 'Talk not of your abstract rights of government, I hate the very sound of them ; follow experience and common sense.' He did not regard a form of government as good because it was *plausible* upon paper, but rather looked to its workings.—MACAULAY.

Play. Literally, reversing its secondary sense, to ply, work, exercise.

The Queen herself accustomed aye
In the same barge to *playe*.—CHAUCER.

The eagle with every other ravenous bird abounds among the precipices of Hoy. A clergyman told us that a man was lately alive, who, when an infant, was transported over a broad sound or arm of the sea, to an eagle's nest in the hill of

Hoy. Pursuit being instantly made, and the eagle's nest being known, the infant was found there *playing* with the eaglets.—Sir W. SCOTT.

Plot. A plan.

Expert men can execute and perhaps judge of particulars one by one, but the general counsels and the *plots* and marshall-ing of affairs come best from those who are learned.—BACON.

Mr. Surveyor brought us a *plot* for the building of our council chamber.—J. EVELYN.

Those few good people who have no other *plot* in their religion but to serve God and save their souls, do want such assistance of ghostly counsel as may serve their emergent needs and assist their endeavours in the acquist of virtue.—J. TAYLOR.

The advantage of a strong pulse is not to be supplied by any labour, art, or concert. It is like the climate which easily rears a crop which no glass or irrigation or tillage can elsewhere rival. So a broad, healthy, massive understanding seems to lie on the shore of unseen rivers, of unseen oceans, which are covered with barks that night and day are drifted to this point—that is, poured into its lap, which other men lie *plotting* for.—EMERSON.

Plump. Convex. The substantive, which is now obsolete, was used for a collection, or cluster.

For those convex glasses supply the defect of *plumpness* in the eye; and the contrary happens in short-sighted men, whose eyes are too *plump*.—Sir I. NEWTON.

Th' imperial bird of Jove;
A *plump* of fowl he spies that swim the lakes,
And o'er their heads his sounding pinions shakes.

DRYDEN, *Virgil's Æneid*, 12.

A ploughman marries a ploughwoman because she is *plump*, generally uses her ill, thinks his children an incumbrance, very often flogs them, and for sentiment has nothing more nearly approaching to it than the ideas of broiled bacon and mashed potatoes. This is the state of the lower orders of mankind—deplorable, but true.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Plying. Bending.

Now lightly skimming o'er the strings they pass,
Like winds that gently bend the *plying* grass.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*.

The willow *plied* and gave way to the gust and still recovered itself again, but the oak was stubborn, and chose rather to break than bend.—L'ESTRANGE.

We were surrounded by a crowd of watermen *plying* for hire, and offering their respective services. My old friend Sir Roger having seated himself, we made the best of our way for Vauxhall. Sir Roger perceiving that our waterman had but one leg, obliged him to give us the history of it, and found that he had left it at La Hogue. The knight made several reflections on the greatness of the British nation, as that one Englishman could beat three Frenchmen, that we could never be in danger of popery so long as we took care of our fleet, that the Thames was the noblest river in Europe, and that London Bridge was a greater piece of work than any of the seven wonders of the world.—ADDISON.

Poke. An old word, meaning a bag or sack.

And in the flore, with nose and mouth to brok,
They walwe, as don two pigges in a *poke*.

CHAUCER, *The Reve's Tale*.

And then he drew a dial from his *poke*,
And looking on it with lack-lustre eyes
Says, very wisely, it is ten o'clock.

SHAKSPEARE, *As You Like It*, ii. 7.

My correspondent writes against the master's gown and *poke* sleeves.—*Spectator*.

Ye braid of the miller's dog ; ye lick your mouth, or the *poke* be open.—RAY.

When R. comes *poking* his head and shoulders into your room, as if to feel his entry, you think that surely you have now got him to yourself. What a three hours' chat we shall have,—but ever on the haunch of him comes the haunting shadow of the cousin. Cannot we like Sempronia without sitting down

to chess with her eternal brother. Scylla must have broken off many excellent matches in her time, if she insisted upon all that loved her loving her dogs also.—C. LAMB.

Polite. Applied to objects in the sense of 'polished.'

For if this were true, then would everything that suffered and re-acted motion, especially *polite* bodies, as looking-glasses, have something both of sense and understanding in them.—CUDWORTH.

Some of them are diaphanous, shining and *polite*; others not *polite*, but as if powdered over with fine iron dust.—WOODWARD.

Surely this is a nation that is cursedly afraid of too much *politeness*, and cannot regain one great genius but at the expense of another.—POPE.

Sir William Temple. If he wears buckles and square-toed shoes, he steps in them with a consummate grace, and you never hear their creak or find them treading on any lady's train, or any rival's heels in the Court crowd. When that grows too hot or too agitated for him, he *politely* leaves it, he retires to his retreat at Shene or Moor Park, and lets the King's party and the Prince of Orange's party battle it out amongst themselves.—THACKERAY.

Pomp. Now generally implies an extravagant or ostentatious show, but it was once used in its literal sense of a long train or procession, without any trace of a meaning of vain display.

Whose body was conveyed into England with all funeral *pompe*.—GRAFTON, *Henry VI.*

Man is a noble animal, splendid in ashes, *pompous* in the grave.—BROWNE.

For I have given here my soul's consent
To undeck the *pompous* body of a king.

SHAKESPEARE, *Richard II*, iv. 1.

An inscription in the ancient way, plain, *pompous*, yet modest, will be best.—ATTERBURY to Pope.

What flattering scenes our wandering fancy wrought,
Rome's *pompous* glories rising to our thought.—POPE.

Dinner at James Ballantyne's. The claret and olives made way for broiled bones and a mighty bowl of punch, and after a few glasses of the hot beverage, James opened, *ore rotundo*, on the merits of the forthcoming romance. One chapter, one chapter only, was the cry. The first I heard so read (by James) was the interview between Jenny Deans, the Duke of Argyle, and Queen Caroline, in Richmond Park ; and, notwithstanding some spice of the *pompous* tricks to which he was addicted, I must say he did the inimitable scene great justice.—LOCKHART'S *Life of Scott*.

Poorly. Now only applied to the health, but formerly needy, shabby.

At Rouen he [Charles II] look'd so *poorly* that the people went into the rooms before he went away to see whether he had not stole something or other.—SAMUEL PEPYS.

Port. A gate.

So let the *ports* be guarded : keep your duties
As I have set them down.

SHAKESPEARE, *Coriolanus*, i. 7.

And wollowing porpice sport and lord it in the flood,
Where once the *port*-like oak, and large limb'd poplar stood.

DRAYTON, *Poly-Olbion*, 5.

From their ivory *port* the cherubim
Forth issued.—MILTON, *Paradise Lost*.

Practise. Often means in old writers to employ a stratagem or artifice.

The House of Parliament was *practised* against the King.—Sir W. RALEIGH.

What got the Lords by *practising* the House at that time ?—Id.

I am informed
That he was apprehended by her *practice*,
And when he comes to trial for his life,
She 'll stand up his accuser.—MASSINGER.

Monsieur Times liked correctness in medical *practice*. I stand up for Artemius. That he killed his patient is plain enough, but still he acted quite according to rule ; a man dead is a man dead, but if rules are to be broken, there is no saying what may be the consequences.—MACAULAY.

Predicament. A situation or condition. Formerly used without any implied sense of awkwardness or difficulty.

O pardon me, that I descend so low
To shew the time and the *predicament*
Wherein you range under this subtle king.

SHAKSPEARE, 1 *Henry IV*, i. 3.

Thou knowest it must be now thy only bent
To keep in compass of thy *predicament*.
Then quick about thy purposed business come,
That to the next I may assign my room.—MILTON.

To subsist in lasting monuments, to live in their productions, to exist in their names and *predicaments* of chimeras, was large satisfaction unto old expectations.—Dr. BROWNE, *on Urn Burial*.

'Think there's livers out of Britain?' says Shakspeare, the prompter of good and true feelings ; so there have been thinkers, and good and sound ones, before our time. We imagine this the age of reason ; because we knew nothing twenty or thirty years ago, we think that the rest of mankind was in the same *predicament*, and never knew anything till we did.—HAZLITT.

Preposterous. Literally, having the first last and the last first.

On his head
Tumbled to earth *preposterously*, and stayed a mighty while,
Because the dust was deep.—CHAPMAN.

The method I take may be considered *preposterous*, because I thus treat last of the antediluvian world which was first in the order of nature.—WOODWARD.

There is a maxim that we should rise with the lark. At what precise minute that little airy musician doffs his night gear, and prepares to tune up his unseasonable matins, we are not naturalist enough to determine, but a mere human gentleman has no orchestra business to call him to such *preposterous* exercises.—C. LAMB.

Presently. Like 'by and by' and 'anon,' now signifies a more or less remote future, having similarly changed its old meaning of the immediate present.

Despatch me hence,
Come answer not, but to it *presently*;
I am impatient of my tarriance.

SHAKESPEARE, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, ii. 7.

After the angels were fallen from heaven, the door was *presently*, without either delay or pity, shut upon them.—SOUTH'S *Sermons*.

All poisons do not kill *presently*, but this (intemperance) will in process of time, and hath formidable effects at present.—J. TAYLOR.

Once when his auditory began to grow dull he *presently* read them verses out of the Hebrew text.—FULLER.

A lad composed a neat copy of verses at Christchurch or Trinity, in which the death of a great personage was be-moaned, the French king assailed, the Dutch or Prince Eugene complimented or the reverse, and the party in power was *presently* to provide for the young poet, and a commissionership, or a post in the stamps, or the secretaryship of an embassy, or a clerkship in the Treasury, came into the bard's possession.—THACKERAY.

Prest. Probably from the old French word meaning ready, prompt.

This Dyomede, as bokes us declare,
Was in his needs *prest* and corageous,
With sterne voice and mighty lymes square.

CHAUCER.

Prest for our journey.—BEAUMONT and FLETCHER.

Devise what pastime ye think best,
And make ye sure to finde me *preste*.

SPENSER, *Four Ps.*

Pretence. Originally a claim, without conveying any meaning of deceit.

Now blinded God, quoth I, forgive me this offence,
Unwittingly I went about to malice thy *pretence*.

SURREY.

Or doth this churlish superscription
Pretend some alteration in good will?

SHAKSPEARE, I *Henry VI*, iv. 1.

The account of Candia by Robert Knot is written in a very simple style. He presents to his reader a very grave account of the noise which the devil makes in the woods of Candia, he does not *pretend* to deal with the devil, but appears to have used the fair and natural resources of observation.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Prevent. Used by old writers in its literal sense of coming before, whence it has gradually acquired the meaning of hindering.

He came to conduct us to the Stranger's House, and said that he had *prevented* the hour because we might have the whole day before us for our business.—BACON, *New Atlantis*.

Arm, arm, they cried, arm, arm, the trumpets blow !
Their merry noise *prevents* the joyful blast :
So hum small bees before their swarm they cast.

FAIRFAX, *Tasso*.

To-morrow morning we shall meet a pack of otter-dogs of noble Mr. Sadler's upon Amwell Hill, who will be there so early as to *prevent* the sun rising.—ISAAC WALTON (1630).

Yet there were three Maries went to the grave so early that they *prevented* the rising of the sun.—J. TAYLOR.

The advantage conversation has over all other means of improving the mind is that it is more natural and more interesting : a book has no eyes and ears and feelings, the best are apt every now and then to become a little languid, whereas a living book walks about and varies his conversation and manner, and *prevents* you from going to sleep.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Prime. The beginning of the day or year.

Till on a day (that day is every *prime*),
When witches wont do penance for their crime.
SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, i. 3.

Early and late it rung, at evening and at *prime*.—Id.

Sure pledge of day, that crown'st the smiling morn
With thy bright circlet, praise him in thy sphere
While day arises, that sweet hour of *prime*.—MILTON.

The far greater part had been cut off in their *prime*, by unexpected disease or fatal accident.—EUSTACE, *Italy*.

Principal. Used by some old writers for 'princely.'

But walked at will, and wandered to and fro
In the pride of his freedom *principal*.—SPENSER.

And strengthen him with thy *principal* spirit.—*Response to prayer for a Dean*.

Speaking for myself, I think I should have voted against the invention of the electric telegraph ; it appears to me that it chiefly seems to convey the news of misfortune rapidly, inaccurately, abruptly, and partially. We have now the fifth act of the tragedy before we know anything of the preceding ones. The facility of conveying information at once and desiring instructions dwarfs the mental powers in the subordinate, while the *principal* at home is driven into madness by never having a sure moment of peace.—Sir A. HELPS.

Profligate. Discomfited.

Courage, the day at length is ours,
 And we once more as conquerors
 Have both the field and honour won,
 The foe is *profligate* and gone.—BUTLER.

Horace Walpole wrote to Chatterton the poet expressing doubts as to the authenticity of his poems. This appears to have excited the anger of Chatterton, who wrote to demand his manuscripts: he returned the specimens, and this concluded the intercourse between them, and as Walpole observes, 'I never saw him then, before, or since; he came afterwards to London and committed suicide, it is to be feared more in consequence of his own *profligate* habits than from any want of patronage.'—Lord DOVER.

Pronunciation. Once equivalent to rhetoric.

Pronunciation is an apt rendering both of the voyce, countenance, and all the whole body, according to the worthyness of such words and matter as by speech are declared.—Dr. WILSON (1553).

His [Fox's] *pronunciation* of our language was singularly beautiful, and his use of it pure and chaste to severity. As he rejected from the pureness of his taste all vicious ornaments, and was most sparing indeed in the use of figures at all, so in his choice of words he justly shunned foreign idiom, or words borrowed, whether from the ancient or modern languages.—BROUGHAM.

Prophecy. Now always to foretell, but once to preach.

Prophecy unto the wind; *prophecy*, son of man, and say to the wind.—*Authorised Version*, Ezek. xxxvii. 9.

'Ay,' returned I, not knowing well what to think of the matter, 'heaven grant they may both be the better for it this day three months.' This was one of the observations I usually made to impress my wife with the opinion of my sagacity, for if the girls succeeded, then it was a pious wish fulfilled, but if anything unfortunate ensued, then it might be looked upon as a *prophecy*.—GOLDSMITH.

Propose. To expound, confer,—senses which have now been lost.

Good Margaret, run thee into the parlour ;
There shalt thou find my cousin Beatrice
Proposing with the prince and Claudio.

SHAKESPEARE, *Much Ado about Nothing*, iii. 1.

My design in this book is not to explain properties of light by hypotheses, but to *propose* and prove them by reason and experiment.—SIR I. NEWTON.

The French Convention. They have proposed to thrust all suspected persons, that is, all against whom they have no proof, into large buildings undermined, for the purpose of blowing them up if a counter revolution happens ! I hope this pandemonial *proposal* was suggested by the last sob of despair. How mankind is improved in the manufacture of malice and mischief since the Greeks, inspired by the Goddess of Wisdom, contrived so silly and untoward a project as to present to a besieged town of their enemies a Brobdignag mare full of armed men !—HORACE WALPOLE.

Propound. This word once had the modern meaning of the preceding word, to ‘propose.’

Dar’st thou to the Son of God *propound*
To worship thee ?—MILTON.

There is a way of *propounding* an argument which is made use of by states and communities when they draw up a hundred thousand disputants on both sides. A certain grand monarch was so sensible of his strength in this way of reasoning that he wrote upon his great guns ‘the logic of kings.’ When one has to do with a philosopher of this kind one should remember an old gentleman’s saying who had been engaged in an argument with one of the Roman emperors ; upon his friends telling him that he wondered that he would give up a dispute when he had visibly the best of it : ‘I am never ashamed,’ says he, ‘to be confuted by one who is master of fifty legions.’—ADDISON.

Propriety. Formerly, like *proprietas*, synonymous with property.

Hail, wedded love, mysterious law, true source
Of human offspring, sole *propriety*
In Paradise of all things common else.

MILTON, *Paradise Lost*.

By me studiously omitted, and left as their *propriety* who have a mind to write the ecclesiastical history of those ages.—Id.

Novels. The sins against *propriety* in manners are as flagrant as they are glaring. I do not speak of the hoyden vivacity and dancing-school affability with which the vulgar novel writers deck out their countesses and princesses, but it would be easy to produce instances of bookish and laborious pleasantry, of pert and insipid gossip, or mere slang set down as the brilliant conversation of a witty and elegant society.—ADOLPHUS.

Provoke. Once, to move or urge, and also (like *provocare*) to appeal : but now, to excite the passions.

Forced by our duties to God, forced thereto by his punishment, *provoked* by his benefits, drawn by our love to our country, to make such laws.—Sir NICHOLAS BACON'S *Speech before the Queen*.

To *provoke* to love and good works.—BARROW.

A *provocation* is every act whereby the office of the judge or his assistance is asked.—Sir J. OYLOFFE.

In the hearing of God Himself and in the presence of His holy angels, so many heavenly acclamations, exultations, *provocations* and petitions pass.—HOOKER.

Swift could love and could pray through the storms and tempests of his furious mind. The stars of religion and love break out in the blue, shine serenely, though hidden by the driving clouds and the madden'd hurricane of his life. As is the case with madmen, certain subjects *provoke* him, marriage is one of these.—THACKERAY.

Puppet. Used as a verb, to 'fondle.'

Behold thy darling whom thy soul affects
So dearly, whom thy fond indulgence decks
And *puppits* up so soft in silken weeds.—QUARLES.

I am persuaded that a man who has many children and gives them a good education, is more likely to raise a family than he who has but one, notwithstanding he leaves him his whole estate. For this reason I cannot forbear amusing myself with finding out a general, an admiral, or an alderman, a divine, a physician, or a lawyer among my little people, who are now perhaps in petticoats, and when I see the motherly airs of my little daughters when they are playing with their *puppets*, I flatter myself that their husbands and children will be happy in the possession of such wives and mothers.—*Spectator*.

Purchase. The old meaning of 'purchase' is familiar to lawyers, and is explained in the quotations from Blackstone.

He that propounds to himself things greater than his needs, and is discontented and troubled when he fails of such *purchases*, ought not to accuse Providence.—J. TAYLOR.

King William, Queen Mary, and Queen Anne, did not take the crown by hereditary right or descent, but by way of donation or *purchase*, as the lawyers call it, by which they mean any method of acquiring an estate otherwise than by descent.—BLACKSTONE, *Commentaries*, i. 3.

The first *purchaser*, perquisitor, is he who first *acquired* the estate to his family, whether the same was transferred to him by sale or gift or by any other method, except only that of descent.—Id., ib., ii. 14.

When he gave his old clothes to Codrus, the poor man was ravished with joy, and went and gave God thanks for his new *purchase*.—J. TAYLOR.

Do you remember the brown suit which you made to hang upon you till all your friends cried shame? It grew so threadbare, and all because of that Beaumont and Fletcher which you dragged home late at night. Do you remember how we eyed it for weeks before we could make up our minds to the *purchase*? When you came home with twenty apologies for laying out a less number of shillings upon that print after Leonardo, was there no pleasure in being a poor man? Now you have nothing to do but to walk into Colnaghi's and buy a wilderness of Leonardos—yet do you?—C. LAMB.

Push. Once applied to the butting of an animal.

If the ox shall *push* a manservant or a maidservant, he shall give unto their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned.—*Authorised Version, Exod. xxi. 32.*

Society for the Suppression of Vice. The violent modes of making men good have been resorted to at periods when the science of legislation was not so well understood as it is now. The improved knowledge and improved temper of later times *push* such laws into the background and silently repeal them. The fear of God can never be taught by constables, nor the pleasures of religion learnt from a common informer.—**SYDNEY SMITH.**

Q.

Quaint. Now always conveys the notion of something odd or curious, but it once expressed what is neat, nice, comely, elegant, artistic, subtly devised or contrived. In Latin *comptus*.

And of Achilles for his *queinte* speare,
For he could with it both heal and dere.

CHAUCER, *The Squire's Tale*.

They should set their intente to please their husbands,
But not by the *queintise* of their array.—**Id.**

For such joy she in her heart tooke
Both of her *quaint* rings and her myrroure.—**Id.**

This cardinall his time hath waited,
And with his wordes slie and *quaint*,
The which he couth wisely paint.—**GOWER.**

Drede and uncunning have made a strong bataille
With weriness my spirit to assail,
And with their subtle creeping in most *quaint*
Hath made my spirit in making for to faint.—**LYDGATE.**

She nothing *quaint*
Nor 'sdainful of so homely fashion.—SPENSER.

O, if my temples were distained with wine
And girt in girlonds of wild yvie twine,
How I could rear the muse or stately stage,
And teach her tread aloft in buskin fine,
With *quaint* Bellona in her equipage.
Id., *Shepherd's Calendar*.

Fine apparition, my *quaint* Ariel.
SHAKESPEARE, *Tempest*, i. 2.

Why then a ladder *quaintly* made of cords.
Id., *Romeo and Juliet*, iii. 1.

But you, my lord, were glad to be employed
To shew how *quaint* an orator you are.
Id., 2 *Henry VI*, iii. 2.

I never saw a better fashioned gown
More *quaint*, more pleasing, more commendable.
Id., *Taming of the Shrew*, iv. 3.

Yes, yes; the lines are very *quaintly* writ.
Id., *Two Gentlemen of Verona*.

But for a fine, *quaint*, graceful and excellent fashion, yours
is worth ten on't.—Id., *Much Ado about Nothing*.

There be as *quaint* (at least they think
Themselves as *quaint*) that crave
The match that thou, I wot not why,
Mayst, but mislik'st to have.—*Old Ballad*.

And light winds *quaintly* fanned her fluent hair.
SANDYS.

It was a *quaint* difference the ancients did put betwixt a
letter and an oration, that the one should be attired like a
woman, the other like a man.—J. HOWELL, 1625.

Throw hither all your *quaint* enamelled eyes,
That on the green turf suck the honied showers,
And purple all the earth with vernal flowers.—MILTON.

Entering into holy orders, he [R. Corbet] became a most
quaint preacher, and therefore much followed by ingenious
men.—WOOD, *Athen. Oxon*.

These points indeed you *quaintly* prove,
But logic is no friend to love.

PRIOR, *Turtle and Sparrow*.

Where'er the power of ridicule displays
Her *quaint-eyed* visage.

AKENSIDE, *Pleasures of Imagination*.

He [Burghley] was prudently unwilling to put his hand to the instruments which changed the course of the succession, but consented to sign as a witness. It is not easy to describe his conduct at this most perplexing crisis in language more appropriate than that which is employed by old Fuller, 'his hand wrote it as Secretary of State,' says that *quaint* writer, 'but his heart consented not thereto.'—MACAULAY.

In many respects Fuller may be described as the very type and exemplar of that large class of religious writers of the seventeenth century to which we emphatically apply the term '*quaint*.' That word has long ceased to mean what it once meant. By derivation, and by original usage, it first signified 'scrupulously elegant, refined, exact, accurate,' beyond the reach of common art. In time it came to be applied to whatever was designed to indicate these characteristics—though excogitated with so elaborate a subtlety as to trespass on ease and nature. In a word, it was applied to what was ingenious and fantastic, rather than tasteful or beautiful. It is now wholly used in this acceptation, and always implies some violation of the taste, some deviation from what the 'natural' requires under the given circumstances. . . . Now the age in which Fuller lived was the golden age of '*quaintness*' of all kinds—in gardening, in architecture, in costume, in manners, in religion, in literature.—Id., *Edinburgh Review*, 1842.

Question. Once an account, description.

The *question* of his death is enrolled in the Capitol, his glory not extenuated.—SHAKSPEARE, *Julius Cæsar*, iii. 2.

It is thus that we ought to judge of the events and the men of other times ; the *question* with respect to them is not where they were but which way they were going. Did they exert themselves to help on the human race or to stop it ? It is the

fundamental law of the world in which we live that truth shall grow—first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.—MACAULAY.

Quick. Formerly used for living, alive.

Amid the town, right in the *quick* street.—CHAUCER.

‘A Collection of Emblems, ancient and modern, *quicken*ed with Metrical Illustrations,’ by John Withers.—*Title of book.*

The mercy that was *quick* in us but late
By your own counsel is suppressed and killed.

SHAKSPEARE, *Henry V*, ii. 2.

I’d rather be set *quick* i’ the earth,
And bowl’d to death with turnips.

Id., *Merry Wives of Windsor*, iii. 4.

And soon arrived where that sad portrait
Of death and labour lay, half dead, half *quick*.—SPENSER.

He [Bonaparte] understood thoroughly the immense moral power which is gained by originality and rapidity of operation. He astonished and paralysed his enemies by his unforeseen and impetuous assaults, by the suddenness with which the storm of battle burst upon them, and whilst giving to his soldiers the advantages of modern discipline, breathed into them by his *quick* and decisive movements the enthusiasm of ruder ages. This power of disheartening the foe and spreading through his own ranks a confidence and exhilarating courage which made war a pastime, and seemed to make victory sure, distinguished Napoleon in an age of uncommon military talent, and was one main instrument of his future power.—W. E. CHANNING.

Quote. Once, to note or mark.

I have with exact view perused thee, Hector,
And *quoted* joint by joint.

SHAKSPEARE, *Troilus and Cressida*, iv. 5.

What curious eye doth *quote* deformities?

SHAKSPEARE, *Romeo and Juliet*, i. 4.

There are people, says Landor, who think they write and speak finely because they have forgotten the language in which their fathers and mothers used to talk to them. And surely there are a thousand household proverbs which many a dainty

modern would think it beneath his dignity to *quote* either in speech or writing, one of which condenses more wit than could be extracted from all that was ever said or written by the *doctrinaires* of the Edinburgh Schools.—LOCKHART.

R.

Race. Properly a root, lineage, has an old meaning of taste or flavour. Hence the modern word ‘racy.’ Blackstone, commenting on Shakspeare, ascribes to *race* and *raciness* in wine the meaning of tartness, but in this he is probably mistaken.

None of our parts so poor
But was a *race* of Heaven.

SHAKSPEARE, *Antony and Cleopatra*, i. 3.

There came, not six days hence, from Hull a pipe
Of rich Canary, which shall spend itself
For my lady’s honour.

Greedy. Is it of the right *race*?

MASSINGER, *A New Way to Pay Old Debts*.

Such comfort to us here your letter gives,
Fraught with brisk *racy* verses.—COWLEY.

Rack. An old word, meaning to wreak to the full.

For it so falls out
That what we have we prize not to the worth
Whiles we enjoy it, but being lack’d and lost,
Why then we *rack* the value.

SHAKSPEARE, *Much Ado about Nothing*, iv. 1.

Rack-rent is only the full value of the tenement, or near it.
BLACKSTONE, *Commentaries*.

Rage. Once used for any powerful emotion.

His prophetic *rage*
Given by Apollo.—CHAPMAN.

Chill penury repressed their noble *rage*.—GRAY.

Italian Opera. It was pleasant enough to see the most refined persons of the British Nation dying away and languishing to notes that were filled with a spirit of *rage* or indignation. I remember an Italian verse which ran thus : ‘and turned my *rage* into pity’—which the English for rhyme’s sake translated ‘and into pity turned my *rage*.’ By this means the soft notes that were adapted to pity in the Italian fell upon the word ‘*rage*’ in the English. It often happened that the finest notes in the air fell upon the most insignificant words, and I have heard the most beautiful graces, quivers and divisions bestowed upon ‘then,’ ‘for,’ and ‘from,’ to the eternal honour of the English particles.—ADDISON.

Raile. To roll. The word does not appear later than the middle of the seventeenth century.

The purple blood eke from the herte’s vein,
Doun *railed* right fast in most rufull wise.

CHAUCER, *Lamentation of Mary Magdalen*.

A woman sitting sorrowfully wailing,
Rending her yellow locks like wiry gold,
About her shoulders carelessly down trailing,
And streams of tears from her fair eyes forth *railing*.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*.

Light was the wound, but through her amber hair
The purple drops down *railed* bloody red;
So rubies set in flaming gold appear.—FAIRFAX, *Tasso*.

Rapture. Not always applied to emotions of the mind or senses.

For those dogmas are long since exploded which asserted the *rapture* of the first morn and the solidity of the heavens, in which the stars were supposed fastened like nails in the vaulted roof of a hall.—BACON.

Then from a dewy mist
Broke swift-foot Iris to her, and from all the darts that hiss't
At her quick *rapture*.—CHAPMAN.

And thick into the ship he threw his flash,
That 'gainst a rock or flat her keel did dash,
In headlong *rapture*.—DRYDEN.

Sometimes, to give variety to our amusements, the girls sang to the guitar, and while they formed a concert my wife and I would stroll down the sloping field that was embellished with blue bells and centaury, talk of our children with *rapture* and enjoy the breeze that wafted with it health and harmony. In this manner we began to find that every situation in life might bring its own peculiar pleasures—every morning waked us to a repetition of toil, but the evening repaid it with vacant hilarity.—GOLDSMITH.

Rascal. A Saxon word for a lean animal.

If we be English deer, be then in blood ;
Not *rascal*-like, to fall down with a pinch,
But rather moody mad, and desperate stags.
SHAKESPEARE, 1 *Henry VI*, iv. 2.

Grannie, these Capons must one charger fill,
That *rascal* spare, but all the fat ones kill.—OGILBY.

How will a right greyhound fix his eye on the best buck in a herd, and follow him and him only through a whole herd of *rascal* game.—ISAAC WALTON.

When he [Pope] had exasperated the Dunces, and threats of violence and personal assault were brought to him, the dauntless little champion never for an instant allowed fear to disturb him, or condescended to take any guard in his daily walks, except occasionally 'his faithful dog to bear him company.' 'I had rather die at once,' said the gallant little cripple, 'than live in fear of those *rascals*.'—THACKERAY.

Rathe. This old Saxon word, meaning 'early,' existed till the time of Milton, but now only survives in the comparative 'rather.'

O dere cosin mine Dan John, she saide,
What aileth you so *rathe* for to arise.

CHAUCER, *The Shippmanne's Tale*.

And commonliche in every need
The werst speeche is *rathest* herde,
And leued till it be answerde.—GOWER.

Too *rathe* cut off by practise criminall
Of secrete foes.—SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, iii. 3.

The *rather* lambs bene starved with cold.
Id., *Shepherd's Calendar*.

Bring the *rathe* primrose that forsaken dies.—LYCIDAS.

Rear. To raise up.

When Samuel, out of his kinde
In Samarie was a-reared,
Long after he was dead.—GOWER.

And he hath *rered* to us an horn of helthe in the house of
Dauith his child.—WICLIF'S *Bible*, *Luke* i.

Most foreign writers who have given any character of the English nation, whatever views they ascribe to it, allow that the people are naturally modest; it proceeds perhaps from this our natural virtue that our orators make use of less gesture or action than those of other countries. Our preachers stand stock still and will not so much as *rear* a finger to set off the best sermon in the world. We meet with the same speaking statues at our bars and all public places of debate. We can talk of life and death in cold blood: though our zeal breaks out in the finest tropes and figures it is not able to stir a limb about us.—ADDISON.

Reason. Occurs in the sense of a motto.

Margaret, daughter of the Earl of Warwick, married Sir John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury: her *reason* was 'Till Deith depart.'

Elizabeth, married to Lord Latimer: her *reason* was 'Till my live's ende.'—ROSS'S *Earls of Warwick*.

Now have the goodness to observe what I mean, if you choose to quarrel with your eldest son, do it: if you are deter-

mined to be disgusted with the world and go and live in Westmoreland, do so ; if you are resolved to quit your country and settle in America, go ! Only when you have settled the *reason* upon which you take one or other of these steps, have the goodness to observe if the words in which those reasons are contained have really any distinct meaning, and if you find they have not, embrace your first-born, forget America, unloose your packages, and remain where you are.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Receipt. Reception of guests ; and so, room, space.

In building we must respect situation, contrivance, *receipt*, strength, and beauty.—FULLER.

As for *receipt* a house had better be too little for a day, than too great for a year.—Id.

Mr. Hogarth's dutiful respects to Lord ——, finding that he does not mean to have the picture which was drawn for him, is informed again of Mr. Hogarth's necessity for the money. If therefore his Lordship delays the *receipt* of it for three days longer, it will be disposed of with the addition of a tail and some other little appendages to Mr. Hare the famous wild beast man, Mr. Hogarth having given that gentleman a conditional promise of it for an exhibition picture on his Lordship's refusal. —*Letter of Hogarth to a Nobleman who delayed payment for his portrait.*

Recess. The following instances exhibit a sense that has passed away.

On both sides they made rather a kind of *recess* than a breach of treaty, and concluded upon a truce.—BACON.

We came into the world we know not how, and live on in a self-nescience, and go hence again and are as ignorant of our *recess*.—GLANVIL.

In the *recess* of the jury, they are to consider their evidence. —SIR MATTHEW HALE.

David was become a favourite of the people, and on that account the object of Saul's jealousy : to avoid the ill effects of which he prudently retired. During this *recess*, Saul was seized with his disorder.—WARBURTON.

Such are the capital articles of this famous *recess*, which is the basis of religious peace in Germany.—ROBERTSON.

A heath pallet with the flowers stuck uppermost, had been prepared for Waverley in a *recess* of the cave, and here, covered with such spare plaids as could be mustered, he lay for some time watching the emotions of the other inhabitants of the cavern.—Sir WALTER SCOTT, *Waverley*.

Recover. To gain.

If I be she that may do you gladness,
For every woe ye shall *recover* a bliss.—CHAUCER.

The forest is not three leagues off: if we *recover* that, we're sure enough.—SHAKESPEARE, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, v. 1.

He [Sir Walter Scott] was telling the story of a dying man escaping from his nurse and appearing at his club. In relating this he described with his deep and lingering tones, and with gestures and looks suited to each part of the action, the sick man, deadly pale, with vacant eyes, walking into the club room, the silence and consternation of the club, the supposed spectre giving a ghastly salutation, raising a glass to his lips, stiffly turning his head from side to side as if pledging the several members, his departure, and the breathless conference of the club, as they *recovered* themselves from this strange visit.—ADOLPHUS.

Rector. Used by some old writers in its literal sense of 'ruler.'

Neptune, the great sea *rector*.—CHAPMAN.

Resigning Jove his right
(As *rector* of the gods) to give the glory of the sight,
Where he affecteth.—Id., *Iliad*, Bk. v.

Dissembling grief as one that knew not ill,
So can she rule the greatness of her mind,
As a most perfect *rectoress* of her will,
Above the usual weakness of her kind.

DRAYTON, *Barons' Wars*, Bk. i.

The *Rector* is going to begin his sermon: he is a very learned man, people say he will be a Bishop one of these days,

for he edited a Greek play and was private tutor to Lord Glitter. Now observe him—his voice how monotonous—his manner how cold—his face how composed, yet what are his words? Fly the wrath that is to come! Remember how terrible is the responsibility of life—how strict the account, how suddenly it may be demanded.—LYTTON.

Rede. To advise ; advice.

The King Saul him axed *rede*,
If that he should go fight or none.—GOWER.

So that he work after his wife's *rede*.—CHAUCER.

But *rede* said Glaucè, thou magician,
What means shall she outseek, or what way take?
SPENSER.

Now less she feared that some fatal *rede*
That warned him of woman's love beware.—Id.

This have I brought to you, my sweet lyfe deir,
Thairfoir I *reid* now that we make good cheyr.—DUNBAR.

Who never gave to wicked *read*
A yielding and attentive ear ;
Who never sinners' paths did tread,
Nor sat him down in scorner's chair.

BACON, *Metrical Translation of Psalm i.*

Walcher, Bishop of Durham, was slain at Gateshead at the instigation of that memorable piece of advice—'Short *rede*, good *rede*, slay ye the Bishop.'—*History of England*, 1080.

The eyes of men converse as much as their tongues, with this advantage, that the ocular dialect needs no dictionary but is understood all over the world. When the eyes say one thing and the tongue another, a practised man relies on the language of the eyes. You can *read* in the eyes of your companion whether your argument hits him, though his tongue will not confess it. There is a look by which a man shows he is going to say a good thing, and a look when he has said it. Vain and forgotten are all the fine offers and offices of hospitality if there is no holiday in the eye.—EMERSON.

Reduce. To bring back.

Abate the edge of traitors, gracious Lord,
That would *reduce* these bloody days again.

SHAKESPEARE, *Richard III*, v. 4.

The most certain way by which the Church may be *reduced*, if she happen to stagger, slip, or err.—Bp. JEWELL.

Society for the Suppression of Vice. At present they should nominate themselves 'A Society for Suppressing the Vice of Persons whose Income does not exceed £500 per annum.' The trespass that calls forth all the energies of a suppressor is the sound of a fiddle. That the common people are really enjoying themselves is now beyond all doubt, and away rush the Secretary, President, and Committee to clap the cotillon into the comptor, and *reduce* the life of the poor to the regular standard of decorous gloom.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Refine. To reform.

Presently he (Henry II) chooseth a Privy Council of clergy and temporality, and *refineth* the common law.—FULLER.

Perhaps, however, while knowledge of the world constitutes the characteristic excellence of Voltaire, it also contributes to his characteristic defect. Genius may be world-wide, but it should not be world-limited. Voltaire never escapes this 'visible diurnal sphere;' with all his imagination he cannot imagine the enthusiasm which lifts itself above the earth—with all his mastery of language he cannot achieve the highest realms of poetic expression. He is curbed by what he had learned to call in the *refined* world good sense and good taste.—*Caxtoniana*.

Regiment. Has now lost its old meaning of 'rule' and 'government.'

Queen of *regiment* (Juno).—CHAPMAN.

His ship of *regiment*, wheresoever he be, shall sooner rush on a rock than rest in a haven.—Sir P. SIDNEY.

Forasmuch as there was an Act made in the *regiment* of Mary, late Queen Dowager and Regent of this realm.—*Scotch Protestations*, temp. Charles I.

My Lord Bishop advised him (J. Taylor) the next time the spirit appeared to ask him these questions: Whence are you? Are you a good or bad spirit? Where is your abode? How are you *regimented* in the other world, and what is the reason you appear in so small a matter?—*Life of J. Taylor*.

I should like to have known the man who first ventured to leave off wearing his pigtail. What a great man he must have been! The pigtail presented every feature of folly which costume can present: it was ugly, inconvenient, and ridiculous. It took up time, it spoilt clothes, it rendered assistance necessary. Think of the *regiment* having their pigtails arranged under the inspection of the prudent captain late at night that his *regiment* might be early in the field, ready for battle.—Sir A. HELPS.

Religion. Once used for religious houses.

Proclamation passed within this realm touching the suppression of *religion*.—(1540.)

And would have preferred to enter *religion* and end his days in a monastery.—FROUDE'S *History*.

The wisdom of America secures to all sects their just rights, gives to each of them their separate pews and bells and steeples, makes them all aldermen in their turn, and quietly extinguishes the faggots which each was preparing for the combustion of the other. Nor is this indifference to *religious* subjects, but pure civilisation—it is a determination that happiness and peace shall not be violated by the insolence of any human being in the garb and under the sanction of religion.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Remember. No longer to 'remind.'

I have thought fit to *remember* you of my former letters in favour of the said David.—Sir P. SIDNEY.

If I had been *remembered*,
I could have given my uncle's grace a flout.
SHAKESPEARE, *Richard III*, ii. 4.

Man hath a weary pilgrimage,
As through the world he wends,

In every stage from youth to age,
 Still discontent attends.
 With heaviness he casts his eye
 Upon the road before,
 And still *remembers* with a sigh
 The days that are no more.—SOUTHEY.

Remit. To refer.

These be well nigh the words of Lucian; whether the counsel be good, I *remytte* it to the wise readers.—Sir T. ELIOT, *The Governour*.

We will contract his [Becket's] acts in proportion to our history, *remitting* the reader to be satisfied in the rest from other authors.—FULLER.

Their rents are *remitted* to them in sugar and rum, the produce of their estates.—SMITH'S *Wealth of Nations*.

Death is the most irrevocable punishment, which is in some sense a good; for however necessary it might be to inflict labour and imprisonment for life, it would never be done. Kings and Legislatures would take pity after a great lapse of years; the punishment would be *remitted*, and its preventive efficacy therefore destroyed.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Remorse. This word has passed from the meaning of 'compassion' to the stronger sense of 'contrition.'

The abuse of greatness is when its disjoins
Remorse from power.—SHAKSPEARE, *Julius Cæsar*, ii. 1.

He was none of these *remorseful* men,
 Gentle and affable, but fierce at all times, and mad then.
 CHAPMAN.

O Eglamore, thou art a gentleman,
 (Think not I flatter, for I swear I do not,)
 Valiant, wise, *remorseful*, well accomplished.
 SHAKSPEARE, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, iv. 3.

There is yet one evil more that I must take notice of, and that is, the running of metaphors into tedious allegories. This becomes abominable when the lustre of one word leads a writer out of his road, and makes him wander from his subject

for a page together. I remember a young fellow of this turn, who, having said by chance that his mistress had a world of charms, took occasion to consider her as one possessed of frigid and torrid zones, and pursued her without *remorse* from one pole to the other.—ADDISON.

Rents. Formerly, like *reditus*, returns of payment generally; now limited to profits arising from lands and houses.

Idle ceremony!

What are thy *rents*? What are thy comings in?

SHAKSPEARE, *Henry V*, iv. 1.

I will detain you no further, wishing you quick *rents*, sound wares, good prices, sure payment.—FULLER.

The Trader. He throws down no man's enclosures, and tramples on no man's corn. He communicates his profits with mankind; by the preparation of his cargo, he furnishes employment and subsistence to a greater number than the richest nobleman, and even the nobleman is obliged to him for finding out foreign markets for the produce of his estate and for making a great addition to his *rents*.—STEELE.

Repair. Persons are now said to be 'restored' rather than 'repaired.'

O younge freshe folkis, he or she,
In which that love upgrowith with your age,
Repaireth him from worldly vanatie.—CHAUCER.

Repair me with thy presence, Silvia,
Thou gentle nymph, cherish thy forlorn swain.

SHAKSPEARE, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, v. 4.

There are divisions in families which make even the Penates tremble, but there is current in the world an invisible cement which is incessantly *repairing* injuries and filling rents.—MISS BREMER.

Report. Once, like *rapport*, meant 'relation to.'

The kitchen and stables are ill-placed, and the corridor

worse, having no *report* to the wings of the house they join to.—J. EVELYN.

Police. There was an ear open through all France to catch the whispers of discontent, a power of evil. Of all instruments of tyranny this is the most detestable. Bonaparte at the head of an army is a dazzling spectacle, but Bonaparte heading a horde of spies, compelled to doubt and fear these bad instruments of his power, compelled to divide them into bands, and to receive their daily *reports* from each, so that, by balancing them against each other and sifting their testimony, he might gather the truth, Bonaparte thus employed is anything but imposing. It requires no great elevation of thought to look down on such a spectacle, and we see in the anxiety and degradation which it involves the beginning of that retribution which tyranny cannot escape.—W. E. CHANNING.

Repose. To deposit. Fuller uses the word with the meaning of ‘to arrange.’

Pebbles *reposed* in these cliffs amongst the earth, being not so dissoluble and more bulky, are left behind.—WOODWARD.

All being settled and *reposed*, the Lord Archbishop did present his Majesty to the Lords and Commons.—FULLER.

Gay's Pastorals. They are to poetry what charming little Dresden china figures are to sculpture. Graceful, minikin, fantastic, with a certain beauty always accompanying them, the pretty little personages of the pastoral, with gold clocks to their stockings, and fresh satin ribbons on their crooks, and waistcoats and boddices, dance their loves to a minuet tune played on a bird-organ, approach the charmer or rush from the false one daintily on their red-heel'd tiptoes, and die of despair or rapture with the most pathetic little grins and ogles, or *repose* simpering at each other under an arbour of pea-green crockery, or piping to pretty flocks that have just been washed in a stream of bergamot.—THACKERAY.

Reprove. To confute.

Reprove my allegation if you can,
Or else conclude my words effectual.

SHAKESPEARE, 2 *Henry VI*, iii. 1.

Comeliness of person and decency of behaviour add infinite weight to what is pronounced by any one. 'Tis the want of this that often makes the rebukes and advice of old rigid persons of no effect, and leaves a displeasure in the minds of those they are directed to; but youth and beauty, if accompanied by a graceful and becoming severity, is of mighty force to raise even in the most profligate a sense of shame. In Milton the devil is never described as ashamed but once, and that at the *reproof* of a beautiful angel.—ADDISON.

Resentment. In its modern usage expresses an angry remembrance instead of a strong sense or feeling.

He retains vivid *resentment* of the more solid morality.—Sir T. MORE.

Some faces we admire and doat on, others in our impartial apprehensions no less deserving, we can behold without *resentment*; yea, with an invincible disregard.—GLANVIL.

I am so fully persuaded of your affection, and have so *resented* the effects of it, that I undoubtedly assure myself of your favorable assistance therein.—PRINCESS PALATINE to Sir Julius Cæsar.

On the death of my dear son, your Lordship was pleased with so much humanity and condescension to send to and comfort me in that sad loss, and to express your own *resentment* of it.—Dr. BARROW to the Earl of Nottingham, 1630.

For return of so transcendent grace we do all in one voice, with all *resentment* can be imagined, in all humility, render our most bounden thanks.—Letter of Council to Charles I.

George III. He ruled the most enlightened nation of modern times, he presided over the destinies of the British Empire, the only free state in the world during an age that witnessed the establishment of independence in the new hemisphere, and the extension of liberty over a great portion of the world. He was a man generally of amiable disposition, and few princes have been more exemplary in their domestic habits or in the offices of private friendship. But the instant that his prerogative was

concerned or his will thwarted, the most unforgiving *resentment* took possession of his whole breast.—BROUGHAM.

Resolution. Formerly equivalent to dissolution.

That kind of death which gradually steals upon the body by simple *resolution* and the wasting of age is a subject that no physician has treated suitably.—BACON.

The Protestant enthusiast. He has no general quarrel with the Establishment, he would gladly be admitted among its humble ministers, and he is told that if it is his *resolution* to be a preacher he must be a schismatic. His choice is soon made, a licence is obtained, a plain brick building with a desk and benches is run up, and named Ebenezer or Bethel. In a few weeks the Church has lost for ever a hundred families. Far different is the policy of Rome. She enlists him in her service, assigns him some forlorn hope in which intrepidity and impetuosity is more wanted than judgment, and sends him forth with her benediction and applause.—MACAULAY.

Resolve. To remove doubt, and so to inform.

Give me some breath !
Before I positively speak in this
I will *resolve* your Grace immediately.

SHAKESPEARE, *Richard III*, iv. 2.

And the exploit might pass for current, if Constantius, the writer of his life in the next age, had *resolved* us how the British army came to want baptizing.—MILTON.

He would have the Spirit *resolve* him how the fallen angels were in Heaven, before they were cast out from thence.—J. TAYLOR.

Resolve me, strangers, whence and what you are.

DRYDEN.

I went with Mr. Godolphin to the Bishop of Ely to be *resolved* whether masses were idolatry.—J. EVELYN.

In the first years of his life a genius lives unknown to himself and to others. The mother of Sheridan, herself a literary female, pronounced early that he was the dullest and most hope-

less of her sons. Tasso pondered upon five different subjects before he could *resolve* upon the choice of his epic. Men of genius have frequently an unsettled impulse without having discovered the object of its aptitude.—I. DISRAELI.

Retain. Occurs in the sense of entertaining.

One Irishe Busshoppe came to me whome I *retained* at my table and gave him certain crownes.—Archbishop PARKER.

For the moving of pity our principal machine is the handkerchief, and indeed in our common tragedies we should not know that the persons are in distress by anything they say, if they did not from time to time apply their handkerchief to their eyes. Far be it from me to think of banishing this instrument of sorrow from the stage. A disconsolate mother with a child in her hand has frequently drawn compassion from the audience, and has therefore *retained* a place in several tragedies. A modern writer being resolved to double the distress and melt his audience twice as much, brought a princess on the stage, with a little boy in one hand and a girl in the other. This, too, had a very good effect.—*Spectator*.

Retire. This word has lost its early meanings 'to bring back' and 'to return.'

Thus wept the old King and tore off his white hair, yet all these

Retired not Hector : Hecuba then fell upon her knees.

CHAPMAN.

Stay and *retire* not with this man's life, or die.—Id.

I was conducted to my apartment in a distant part of the building. I must own that when I heard door after door shut after my conductor *retired*, I began to consider myself as too far from the living and somewhat too near to the dead. We passed through what is called the king's room—a vaulted apartment garnished with trophies of the chase, and said by tradition to be the spot of Malcolm's murder. In spite of the truth of history, the whole night scene in Macbeth's Castle rushed at once upon me, and struck my mind more forcibly than ever when I have seen its terrors represented by John Kemble and his inimitable sister.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Retribution. Once used for re-payment, without a sense of vindictiveness.

The King thought he had not remunerated his people sufficiently with good laws, which evermore was his *retribution* for treasure.—BACON, *Henry VII.*

Beside the other graces and civilities I had from you, exact this open *retribution* of my thanks.—J. EVELYN.

Cæsar Borgia having resolved with his father Alexander the Sixth to poison Cardinal Cometto, feasted the Cardinal for the purpose ; but having prepared poisoned wine, the butler in mistake presented the Pope and Borgia with the prepared goblets, so that the murderers fell into their own traps, the one to die, the other to survive by a strange and ghastly effort, to perish by a worse fall. As the butler was purposely kept ignorant of the contents of the bottles there was some chance in that. Fortune, says Menander, sometimes takes a surer aim than we: *retribution* comes upon the very heels of the act.—FRISWELL.

Reward. Formerly signified either a favourable or unfavourable recompense.

He hath not dealt with us after our sins, nor *rewarded* us according to our iniquities.—*Authorised Version, Psalm ciii. 10.*

Nevertheless every man shall receive according to his labour : if he preach much, the more shall be his *reward*, if he preach little, thereafter shall be his *reward*.—FRYTH.

Yet not escaped of the due *reward*
Of his bad deeds.—SPENSER.

Then look at the gigantic Brougham—sworn in at twelve o'clock, and before six has a bill on the table abolishing the abuses of a Court, which has been the curse of the people of England for centuries. For twenty-five long years did Lord Eldon sit in that court surrounded by misery and sorrow, which he never held up a finger to alleviate. The widow and the orphan cried to him as vainly as the town-crier cries, when he offers a small *reward* for a full purse. The bankrupt of the

Court became the lunatic of the Court, estates mouldered away and mansions fell down, but the fees came in and all was well.—
 SYDNEY SMITH.

Righteously. Once equivalent to 'rightfully.'

Turn from us all those sins which we most *righteously* have deserved.—*Prayer Book*.

If instead of prescribing to ourselves indifferent actions as duties, we apply a good and zealous intention to all our indifferent actions, we make our existence one continued act of obedience, we turn our diversions and amusements to our eternal advantage, and are *righteously* pleasing Him (whom we are made to please) in all the circumstances and occurrences of life.
 STEELE.

Road. Occurs in the sense of a raid or inroad.

Whilst the siege continued, a number of Scottish men made a *road* into the country of Glendale.—HOLINSHED.

Coleridge taking up the down of a thistle which lay by the *road*-side and holding it up, said, 'The tendency of this thistle is towards China (after observing the direction in which it was borne by the wind), but I know with assured certainty that it will never get there, nay, that it is more than probable that after sundry eddyings and girations up and down, backwards and forwards, it will be found somewhere near the place in which it grew.' Then turning to me, 'I refer to your experience, if you ever knew the probabilities or suppositions of any man or set of men realized in their main features permanently—the flux and change of events unfit all laws for after times.'—S. COLERIDGE.

Robust. No longer used in the bad sense of 'violent.'

Hardly would one see a man of more grim aspect, and no less *robust* and rude in his behaviour.—FULLER.

Burns. His person was strong and *robust*, his manners rustic, not clownish; a sort of dignified plainness and simplicity which

received part of its effect, perhaps, from one's knowledge of his extraordinary talents. There was a strong expression of sense and shrewdness in all his lineaments; the eye alone, I think, indicated the poetical character and temperament. It was large, and of a dark cast, and glowed (I say literally glowed) when he spoke with feeling or interest. I never saw such another eye in a human head, though I have seen the most distinguished men in my time. His conversation expressed perfect self-confidence without the slightest presumption.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Room. Formerly a place, as well as an apartment, and also used for a box or gallery at a theatre.

And love the uppermost *rooms* at feasts.—*Authorised Version, Matthew xxiii. 6.*

I beg it with as forced a looke as a player that in speaking an epilogue makes love to the two-penny *roume* for a plaudit.—*Hospital of Incurable Fools, 1600.*

Joe in his holiday clothes was like a scare-crow in good circumstances—nothing fitted, and everything grazed him. He emerged from his *room* in a full suit of Sunday penitentials.—C. DICKENS.

Rotten. Presents a change of meaning from softness to decay, but the old sense survives in 'rotten-stone' and 'Rotten-row.'

They were left moiled and dirtied with mire by reason of the deepness of the *rotten* way.—KNOX.

Canning. It is well known how much more attachment was conceived for his memory by his family and his devoted personal friends than by his most staunch political adherents. The friendships of statesmen are proverbially of *rotten* texture.—BROUGHAM.

Ruffle. A ruff or ruffle was an article of dress puffed out with folds and plaits.

Shall I *ruffle* it in new devices, with chains and bracelets, with rings, with robes?—LYLY.

The tailor stays thy leisure
To deck thy body with his *ruffling* treasure.

SHAKESPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, iv. 3.

Lady, I cannot *ruffle* it in red and yellow.

BEN JONSON, *Cynthia's Revels*.

The Stage. But among all our tragic artifices I am most offended with those that are made use of to inspire us with magnificent ideas of the persons that speak. The ordinary method of making a hero is to clap a large plume of feathers upon his head. As these superfluous ornaments make a prince, a princess generally receives her grandeur from those additional incumbrances that fall into her tail, I mean the broad sweeping tail that follows her in all her motions, and finds constant employment for a boy who stands behind her to open and spread it to advantage. I must confess my eyes are wholly taken up with the page's part. It is in my opinion a very odd spectacle to see a queen venting her passion, and a little boy taking care all the time that she does not *ruffle* the tail of her gown.—ADDISON.

Rumble. A cry or noise.

The people cried and *rombled* up and down,
That with his eres herd he how they sayde,
Where is this false tyrant, this Neroun?

CHAUCER, *The Monk's Tale*.

Delighting ever in *rombel* that is new.—GOWER.

In the meanwhile the skies 'gan *rumble* sore.

SURREY, *Æneid*, Bk. iv.

Whilst at dinner, we heard a very loud *rumbling* noise, like distant thunder. We found the noise to originate from the breaking off of huge bodies of ice. The ground on which we were standing was at least two leagues off from the spot where the fall of ice had taken place.—VANCOUVER.

Rummage. Tumult. Now, a bustling search. A miscellaneous sale of goods in the docks is called a '*rummage* sale.'

And this (I take it)
Is the main motive of our preparations,
The source of this our watch, and the chief head
Of this post-haste and *rummage* in the land.

SHAKSPEARE, *Hamlet*, i. 1.

Our greedy seamen *rummage* every hold,
Smile in the beauty of each wealthier chest,
And as the priests, who with their gods make bold,
Take what they like, and sacrifice the rest.
DRYDEN, *Annus Mirabilis*.

S.

Sacred. Formerly used as dedicated to ill as well as to good; and so, accursed.

Come, come, our empress, with her *sacred* wit,
To villainy and vengeance consecrate,
Will we acquaint with all that we intend.

SHAKSPEARE, *Titus Andronicus*, ii. 1.

Tim. Most *sacred* Sir—

Theo. *Sacred*, as 'tis accurs'd,
Is proper to me.

MASSINGER, *Emperor of the East*, iv. 5.

For *sacred* hunger of my gold I die :
Then showed his grisly wound, and last he drew
A piteous sigh, and took a long adieu.—DRYDEN.

O *sacred* hunger of pernicious gold !—Id.

I must tell you a private woe that has happened to me in my neighbourhood. Mr. William Stanhope bought Pope's house and garden. The former was so small and bad one could not avoid pardoning his hollowing out that fragment of the rock Parnassus into habitable chambers; but would you believe it? he has cut down the *sacred* groves themselves; in short, it was a little bit of ground of five acres enclosed with three lanes, and seeing

nothing, Pope had twisted and twirled and rhymed and harmonised this till it appeared two or three sweet little lawns opening and opening beyond one another, and the whole surrounded by impenetrable woods.—HORACE WALPOLE to *Miss Berry*.

Sad. Serious, steady; now always conveys the notion of grief.

This messenger drank *sadly* ale and wine.—CHAUCER.

O stormy people, *unsad* and ever untrew.—Id.

In thy youth be lusty, *sad* when thou art old.—LYDGATE.

Tell me in *sadness* who she is you love.

SHAKESPEARE, *Romeo and Juliet*, i. 1.

Call to me

All my *sad* captains; fill our bowls once more.

Id., *Antony and Cleopatra*, iii. 11.

Be modest in each assembly, and rather be rebuked of light fellows for maidenlike shame-facedness, than of your *sad* friends for pert boldness.—SIR P. SIDNEY.

A sober, *sad*, and comely, courteous dame.—SPENSER.

Sombrius is one of these sons of sorrow; he thinks himself obliged in duty to be *sad* and disconsolate, he looks upon a sudden fit of laughter as a breach of his baptismal vow. An honest jest startles him like blasphemy; describe a public ceremony, he shakes his head. All the little ornaments of life are pomps and vanities; he is scandalized at youth for being lively, and at childhood for being playful; he sits at a christening or a marriage feast as at a funeral. After all Sombrius is a religious man, and would have behaved himself very properly had he lived when Christianity was under a general persecution.—ADDISON.

Saints. Persons devoted to pious purposes. The term is now rather applied to distinguished Christians canonized by the Church.

For the perfecting of the *saints* for the ministry.—*Authorised Version*, *Ephesians* iv. 12.

Authors. The most fortunate live to see their talents contested

and their best works decried. Hume's philosophical indifference could often suppress the irritability which Pope and Smollet fully indulged; but were the feelings of Hume more obtuse, or did his temper, gentle as it was, constitutionally bear with *saintly* patience the mortifications his literary life long endured? After recomposing two of his works, which incurred the same neglect in their altered form, he raised the most sanguine hopes of his History; but he tells us 'miserable was my disappointment.'—I. DISRAELI.

Savages. Wild animals.

All sorts of subtlest *savages* which many a wooded hill
Bred for him.—CHAPMAN.

Sierra Leone. The houses of the natives have seldom any other opening than the door. The entrance of a house is seldom closed by anything but a mat, which is occasionally let down and is a sufficient barrier against all intruders. The most intimate friend will not presume to lift the mat and enter unless the salutation is returned. A woman by pronouncing the word *mo-orradee* (I am busy) can prevent her husband from entering. The explanation of these pieces of superlative refinement among *savages* is that they are not mere ceremonies but religious observances.—WINTERBOTTOM.

Scale. To disperse, divide. The word in this sense shows an affinity to the American 'skedaddle.'

The huge heaps of cares that lodged in my mind
Are *skaled* from their nestling place, and pleasures passage
find.—*History of Clyomen*, 1599.

An old sack is aye *skailing*.—RAY'S *Scottish Proverbs*.

The great ancients who, if they were not philosophers, were always men of genius, saw, or imagined they saw, a divinity within the man. It is alike experienced in the silence of study, and amidst the roar of the cannon, in painting a picture, or in *scaling* a rampart.—I. DISRAELI.

Scripture. Not always limited to the sacred writings.

College of Wallingford. I will at my charge repair the altar-cloths, and set in every one of them his Grace's arms, with a *scripture* of memory that his Grace conferred such ornaments to his Grace's Chapel.—Dr. LOUDON to *Lord Privy Seal*, 1530.

What's here ?

The *scriptures* of the loyal Leonatus,
All turned to heresy.—SHAKSPEARE, *Cymbeline*, iii. 4.

The Cartoons of Raphael. These are representations from *Scripture* of no less actions than those of our blessed Saviour and his Apostles. When St. Paul is preaching to the Athenians, with what wonderful art are almost all the tempers of mankind represented in that elegant audience. You see one credulous of all that is said, another wrapt up in deep suspense, another saying there is some reason in what he says, another angry that he destroys a favourite opinion which he is unwilling to give up, another wholly convinced and holding out his hands in rapture, while the generality attend and wait for the opinion of those who are of leading character in the assembly.—ADDISON.

Sculpture. Once, engraving as well as carving.

Examples are best precepts, and a tale
Adorned with *sculpture* better may prevail
To make men lesser beasts than all the store
Of tedious volumes.—OGILBY, *Æsop*.

Or to copy or counterfeit any of the *sculptures* or ingravements therein.—Id.

An arbour. You enter by an easy ascent of steps lined with turf and fenced with a balustrade of sloping bay-trees. The roof was a fine concave, peculiarly elevated and stately, not embossed with *sculpture*, not mantled over with fret-work, but far more delicately adorned with the Syringa's silver tufts and the Laburnum's flowering gold, whose large and lovely clusters gracefully pendent from the leafy dome, disclosing their sweets to the bee, and gently waving to the balmy breath of spring, gave the utmost enrichment to this charming bower.—HERVEY.

Secure. Once had the meaning of 'careless' in a bad sense.

Gideon smote the host, for it was *secure*.—*Authorised Version, Judges viii. 11.*

In divinity there cannot be a progress analogous to that which is constantly taking place in pharmacy, geology, or navigation. None of these sciences have the smallest bearing on the question whether man is justified by faith alone, or whether the Invocation of Saints is an orthodox practice. It seems to us that we have no *security* for the future against the prevalence of any theological error.—MACAULAY.

Seminary. An old term for an English Papist educated abroad.

As awhile ago, they made me, yea me, to mistake an honest zealous poursuivant for a *seminary*.—BEN JONSON.

New schools that are not restricted by any established routine should give a fair trial to experiments in education which afford a rational prospect of success. If nothing can be altered in the old schools, leave them as they are, injure none, destroy nothing, but let the public try whether they cannot have something better. If the experiment do not succeed, the public will be convinced that they ought to acquiesce in the established methods of instruction, and parents will send their children to the ancient *seminaries* with increased confidence.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Sensible. Full of life or feeling; a meaning now changed to the possession of moral or intellectual perception.

This *sensible* warm motion to become
A kneaded clod.

SHAKSPEARE, *Measure for Measure*, iii. 1.

There was in Mirabeau not indeed anything deserving the name of virtue, but that imperfect substitute for virtue which is found in all superior minds, a *sensibility* to the beautiful and good, and which mingled with the desire of admiration sometimes gave to his character a lustre resembling the lustre of true goodness, as the 'faded splendour wan' which lingered round

the fallen archangel resembled the exceeding brightness of those spirits who had kept their first estate.—MACAULAY.

Servile. Once physically as well as morally 'low.'

Unadvised are those Planters who, having choice of ground, have built their towns in places of a *servile* nature.—FULLER.

There is hardly anything in which mankind is so thoughtless, so *servile*, and as regards ideas so poverty-stricken, as in ornamentation. The imitative nature of the monkey comes out strong upon such occasions, but perhaps the death-blow given to beauty and variety of ornament was when the system of moulding was invented. This of course suits man's indolence, as ornaments can be turned out by the thousand.—Sir A. HELPS.

Seven. An oriental expression signifying any small number, and so used by some old English writers.

And the child sneezed *seven* times, and the child opened his eyes.—*Authorised Version*, 2 *Kings* iv. 35.

Has been a vile thief this *seven* year.

SHAKESPEARE, *Much Ado about Nothing*, iii. 3.

And at the side a door
Contrived, and provisions laid in large,
For every bird and beast and insect small,
Came *sev'ns* and pairs, and entered in as taught
Their order.—MILTON.

It was thus that the tough old tower of Glamis, 'whose birth tradition notes not,' once showed its lordly head above *seven* circles, if I remember right, of defensive boundaries, through which the friendly guest was admitted, and at each of which the suspicious person was unquestionably put to his answer. A disciple of Kent had the cruelty to render this splendid old mansion more parkish, and to bring his mean and paltry gravel walk up to the very door from which, deluded by the name, one might have imagined Lady Macbeth issuing forth to receive King Duncan.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Several. Formerly used more distinctly as ‘separate’ than now.

Each fettered ghost slips to his *several* grave.—MILTON.

Let not thy common rooms be *several*, nor thy *several* rooms be common. Chambers and closets are to be private and retired.—FULLER.

Cromwell’s third Parliament split on the same rock as his second, over the Constitutional Formula, ‘How came he there?’ ‘Why did he not give it up, retire into obscurity again, as the law would not acknowledge him?’ cry *several*. That is where they mistake. For him there was no giving it up. Let him once resign, Charles Stuart and the Cavaliers waited to kill him, to kill the cause and him. This Prime Minister could retire no whither except into his tomb. One is sorry for Cromwell in his old days: his complaint is incessant of the heavy burden Providence had laid on him—heavy, which he must bear till death. Let the hero rest.—CARLYLE.

Severity. ‘Discipline’ is an old meaning of this word.

While they dress and comb out their opportunities of their morning devotion and half the day’s *severity*, and sleep out the care and provision of their souls.—FULLER.

There are a few characters which have stood the closest tests and the *severest* scrutiny, which have been tried in the furnace and have proved pure, which have been declared sterling by the general consent of mankind, and which are visibly stamped with the image and superscription of the Most High. These great men we trust that we know how to prize, and of these was Milton. The sight of his books, the sound of his name, are refreshing to us. They are powerful not only to delight, but to elevate and purify; nor do we envy the man who can study either the life or writings of the great Poet and Patriot without aspiring to imitate, not indeed the sublime works with which his genius has enriched our literature, but the zeal with which he has laboured for the public good.—MACAULAY.

Shame. Now a consciousness of guilt, but once modesty, virtue.

And *shame* hindereth every wight.—CHAUCER.

Being cast from heaven by want of *shame*
In my proud mother.—CHAPMAN.

Sheer. Often means in Shakspeare 'pure,' 'clear'; now 'unmingled.'

Thou *sheer*, immaculate, and silver fountain,
From whence this stream thro' muddy passages
Hath held his current.—SHAKSPEARE, *Richard III*, v. 3.

Satire consists in the exaggeration of some alleged vice or folly to the ignoring of other components in the moral being of the individual satirised, until the individual is reduced almost to an abstraction of the idea which the satirist wishes to hold up to scorn; and a Tartuffe becomes less a hypocritical man than an allegorical personification of *sheer* hypocrisy. So, on the contrary, with Shakspeare the one dominant passion is softened and shaded off into various other tints, and it is through the complicated functions of the living man that the dominating idea winds and undulates.—*Caxtoniana*.

Shrew. Applied by Gower and other early writers to both sexes alike, in the sense of one who annoys or molests.

The old *shrewe* Sir Launcelot smote me downe.
History of Prince Arthur, Pt. ii. c. 133.

Jacob was a good man, Esau a *shrewe*.
Dives and Pauper, c. 20.

But Vulcanus, of whom I spake,
He was a *shrewe* in all his youth.—GOWER, Bk. v.

As our Saviour said by the wicked baily, which, though he played the false *shrewe* for his master, provided yet wilily somewhat for himselfe.—Sir T. MORE, *Confutation of Tyndale*.

Shrewd. Used by Wiclif for 'crooked,' and by

Shakspeare as 'having the qualities of a shrew.' The meaning is now confined to the more favourable sense of wary, sagacious.

And the prophete saith; 'Flee *shrewednesse* and do goodnesse; seke pees and folwe it, in as muchel as in thee is.'—CHAUCER, *Tale of Melibeus*.

And *shrewed* things schulen be dressed things, and sharp thinges [rough places] unto pleyn wayes.—WICLIF'S *Bible*, *Luke* iii.

Who in his pore prayers forgetteth none of you all, nor your babes, nor your nurses, nor your good husbands, nor your good husbands' *shrewde* wyves, nor your father's *shrewde* wyfe, nor our other friends.—SIR T. MORE, *Letter from the Tower*.

Her elder sister is so curst and *shrewd*.

SHAKSPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, i. i.

Of all the plots the king hath laid for me
This was the *shrewdest*, 'tis my life they seek,
And they shall have it.

BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *The Noble Gentleman*.

Whom he [Byron] had long known and accompanied far, whom he had found watchful over his sickness and kind in his sorrow, glad in his prosperity and firm in his adversity, true in council and trusty in peril, a friend often tried and never found wanting, a man of learning, of talent, of *shrewdness*, and of honour.—BYRON (of Hobhouse).

Shrill. Applied by old writers, in the sense of 'clear,' to rivers and fountains.

Not underneath sweet shades and fountains *shrill*,
Among the nymphs, the fairies, leaves, and flowers,
But on the steep, the rough and craggy hill
Of virtue stands this bliss.—FAIRFAX, *Tasso*.

And thence she fled
Ambling along the meads and rivers *shrill*,
And yet she thought, she knew, she did no ill.—Id.

Our hare took a large field under us, followed by the full cry in view. I must confess the brightness of the weather, the cheerfulness of everything around me, the chiding of the hounds which was returned upon us by a double echo from the neighbouring hills, with the hallooing of the sportsmen and the *shrill* sounding of the horn, lifted my spirits into a most lively pleasure, which I freely indulged because I was sure it was innocent. If I was under any concern, it was on account of the poor hare that was now quite spent and almost within reach of her enemies, when the huntsman getting forward threw down his pole before the dogs.—ADDISON.

Singular. Except in grammar, no longer used in the sense of 'single.'

Whereunto every man shall *singularly* say his advice, and then it may be subscribed by the Lords there.—*Order of Council*, Edward VI.

Byron's Death. Never shall I forget the *singular*, the stunning sensation which the intelligence produced. We could not believe that the bright race was run when he went down to dust. It was as the abrupt close of some history of deep passion in our actual lives—the interest, the excitement, of years came to a gloomy pause.—LYTTON.

Skill. 'It skills' means in old writers 'makes a difference,' 'signifies.'

I am to get a man,—whate'er he be,
It *skills* not much, we'll fit him to our turn.

SHAKESPEARE, *Taming of the Shrew*, iii. 2.

Shall she work stories or poetry?
It *skilleth* not which.—LILLY.

I warrant Love
Is very like this that folks talk of so
I *skill* not what it is.—BEAUMONT and FLETCHER.

Skip. Would not now be used in connection with a tragic event, as in the following instance.

For when she saw that Romans won the town,
 She took her children all and *skipt* adown
 Into the fyre, and chose rather to deye.—CHAUCER.

An Opera Dancer. I will describe you her performance : she will curtsey to her middle, and then rise in a pirouette two yards high ; this is her preliminary step. She will then set off and *skip* over the whole area of the stage, lighting on it only occasionally, trying her limbs, and as it were provoking the dance from afar, and then will present herself to the spectators in all the variety of human shapes. One while you may see her 'many twinkling feet' suspended in the air—at last, she will poise herself upon the extremity of the left toe, and bring the right gradually up to the level of the eye—(the house will hold its breath),—and then she will give herself a rotatory motion, continuing it till she becomes invisible. You can no more count her legs than the spokes of a rail-waggon carrying the President's message.—*The American in Paris.*

Slick. An old form of 'sleek.'

Both of one hair did shine,
 Both of an age, both of a height as measured by a line,
 Whom silver-bowed Apollo bred in the Pierian mead,
 Both *slick* and dainty.—CHAPMAN, *Iliad.*

Slight. Now rather passively 'to neglect,' than actively 'to overthrow.'

A wonderful and sudden change in the face of the public ; the new Protector Richard *slighted* ; several pretenders and parties strive for the Government ; all anarchy and confusion. Lord have mercy upon us !—J. EVELYN.

He who writes otherwise than for money, says Dr. Johnson, is a fool. So thought Mr. Burke, so said Darwin, and so think most others whose works are in request by the world, or who know the solitary toil by which alone a good work can be produced. No man in any station in life, no statesman, no lawyer, no physician, no clergyman, no soldier gives his labours mental or bodily without hire. Why then should not the author have his hire without let or without *slight*?—JAMES PRIOR.

Sly. Now implies some degree of affectation or meanness attached to its older sense of artfulness or dexterity.

Calliope, thou sister wise and *sly*,
And thou, Minerva, guard me with thy grace.

CHAUCER.

Lo, I send you as sheepe in the middyl of wolves ; therefore be ye *slye* as serpents, and simple as doves.—WICLIF'S *Bible*, *Matthew* x.

It happened mine honest friend Hector Macdonald came in before dinner to ask a copy of my seal of arms with a *sly* kindness of intimation that it was for some agreeable purpose.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Smell. To trace, discern.

So from that time forward I began to *smell* the word of God.—Bp. LATIMER.

Accept me, and in me from these receive
The *smell* of peace towards mankind.—MILTON.

I did get a vote signed by all concerning my issue of warrants, which they did not *smell* the use I intended to make of it.—S. PEPYS.

A sick man sits upon a green bank, and when the dog-star parcheth the plains and dries up rivers, he lies in a shady bower and feeds his eyes with a variety of objects, herbs, and trees ; and to comfort his misery he receives many delightful *smells* and fills his ears with that sweet and various harmony of birds. ' Good God,' saith he, ' what a company of pleasures hast thou made for man ! '—BURTON.

Sort. Some old meanings of this word are obsolete, such as lot, a company, condition, rank in life : also used as a verb, to allot, appoint.

In some particular occasions more than the general *sorte* of my coat.—JOHN ARUNDEL, 1590.

Come try me if this *sort* be ours, and either render thus
Glory to others, or make them resign the like to us.

CHAPMAN.

Make a lottery,
And by device let blockish Ajax draw
The *sort* to fight with Hector.

SHAKSPEARE, *Troilus and Cressida*, i. 3.

That he was the Lord Ambassador
Sent from a *sort* of tinkers to the King.

Id., 2 *Henry VI*, iii. 2.

Mine eyes are full of tears, I cannot see,
And yet salt water blinds them not so much,
But they can see a *sort* of traitors here.

Id., *Richard II*, iv. 1.

Thou keep'st me from the light ;
But I will *sort* a pitchy day for thee.

Id., 3 *Henry VI*, v. 6.

Ye shall be slain, all the *sort* of you : yea as a tottering
wall shall ye be.—*Prayer Book, Psalm lxii*. 3.

It is said that she rose that day very early, and commanded
all her *sorte* to go to the Fayre, and would suffer none to tarry
at home.—*Letter to Lord Dudley on Amy Robsart's death*.

Ceylon. Oyster lotteries are carried on here to a great extent.
They consist in purchasing a quantity of the oysters unopened,
and running the chance of finding or not finding pearls in them.
The European gentlemen who attend the fishing through duty
or curiosity are particularly fond of these lotteries, and fre-
quently make purchases of this *sort*.—PERCIVAL'S *Ceylon*.

Souse. An old word, meaning 'to strike vio-
lently.'

So sore he *soused* him on the compass'd crest,
That forced him to leave his lofty dell.—SPENSER.

The wary fowl that spies him toward bend,
His dreadful *souse* avoids.—Id.

The gallant monarch is in arms,
And, like an eagle o'er his aerie towers,
To *souse* annoyance that comes near his nest.

SHAKSPEARE, *King John*, v. 2.

Above all, with considerable disposition to talk, I was not permitted to open my lips without one or two old ladies who watched my couch being ready to *souse* upon me 'imposing silence with a stilly sound.'—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Sparkle. To scatter, now obsolete.

Beaten, an't please your Grace,
And all his forces *sparkled*.

BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *Loyal Subject*, i. 5.

The walls and castell razed, and the inhabitants *sparkled* into other cities.—STOW'S *Annals*.

Charles Lamb's letters are full of himself and his usual incessant delightful mannerism; they abound in heart, peculiarity, unworldly pathos, humour, irony, fun, nonsense, balderdash, madness; yet all so deliciously fresh and rich, so peppered with old word condiments, so brimful of the *sparkling* 'wine of life,' so tartly singular in their spirit and style, that we sigh to think they are included in everything that has an end.—GILFILLAN.

Spill. Once to waste or destroy.

That thou would'st suffer innocence to *spill*,
Or for to *spill*, or for to save.—CHAUCER.

Spill not the morning, the quintessence of the day, in recreations; for sleep itself is a recreation. Add not therefore sauce to sauce. And he cannot properly have any title to be refreshed who was not first faint.—FULLER.

At a little distance from Sir Roger de Coverley's house there is among the ruins of the abbey a long walk of aged elms, which are shot up so very high, that when one passes under them the rooks and crows that nest upon the tops of them, seem to be cawing in another region. I like this retirement the better because of an ill report it lies under for being haunted. My good friend the Butler begged me not to venture myself in it

after sunset, for that one of the footmen had been almost frightened to death in it by a spirit, and one of the maids coming home late that way with a pail of milk on her head, heard such a rustling among the leaves that she let it *spill*. No living creature ever walks in it besides the Chaplain.—ADDISON.

Spinster. Used till the middle of the last century in its original meaning of one who spins.

The *spinsters* and the knitters in the sun,
And the free maids who weave their thread with bones,
Do use to chant it.—SHAKESPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, ii. 4.

But as a *spinster* poore and juste, ye sometimes see strait
lac'd

About the weighing of her web, who (careful) having
charge,

For which she would provide some meanes, is loth to be
too large

In giving or in taking weight; but ever with her hand
Is doing with the weights and wool, till both in just poise
stand.—CHAPMAN, *Iliad*.

The Registrar General is in possession of a greater number of family secrets than any other person in the kingdom. Nothing is more curious than his experience with regard to marriage and non-marriage, bachelors and *spinsters*, husbands and wives, widowers and widows, and the chances as to how many of us will ever be married at all. This prosaic functionary can tell us more on the subject than any Zadkiel or Raphael, any fortune-tellers or astrologers, any novel writers, whether sensational or sentimental.—*Once a Week*.

Spleen. The spleen was supposed to be the seat of varying humours, and hence the word has formerly been used indifferently for immoderate merriment or excessive melancholy and resentment.

On which hand a lark sung from the *spleen*.—DUNBAR.

Brief as the lightning in the collied night,
That in a *spleen* unfolds both heaven and earth,
And ere a man hath power to say Behold !
The jaws of darkness do devour it up :
So quick bright things come to confusion.

SHAKSPEARE, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, i. 1.

I know her for
A *spleeny* Lutheran.—Id., *Henry VIII*, iii. 2.

Were it not glory that we more affected,
Than the performance of our heaving *spleens*.

Id., *Troilus and Cressida*, ii. 2.

Like an angry ape,
Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven
As make the angels weep ; who with our *spleens*
Would all themselves laugh mortal.

Id., *Measure for Measure*, ii. 2.

That the passions directly opposite to these, laughter and *spleen*, are no less at Shakspeare's command ; that he is not more a master of the great than the ridiculous in human nature.
—POPE.

If highly born, intolerably vain,
Vapours and pride by turns possess her brain,
Now gayly mad, now sourly *splenetic* ;
Freakish when well, and fretful when she's sick.—Id.

Lord Mansfield. He had a constant command of himself, never betrayed into anger or impatience, nor ever showing *spleen* or any other breach of strict equality and perfect equanimity, either towards parties or their advocates.—BROUGHAM.

Spright. } In some old writers synonymous with
Sprightly. } 'spirit,' 'spiritual.'

Appeared to me with other *spritely* shows
Of mine own kindred.—SHAKSPEARE, *Cymbeline*, v. 5.

Half of this breast, this *spright* and will,
Died in the breast of Astrophil.

SPENSER (of Sir P. Sidney).

See he gathers up his *spright*,
And begins to hunt for life.

BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, *The Faithful Shepherdess*, iv. 1.

Ill fate assumed a body thee t' affright,
And wrapt itself in terrors of the night :
I'll meet thee at Philippi said the *spright*.—COWLEY.

Horace Walpole. He coins new words, destroys the senses of old words, and twists sentences into forms which make grammarians stare. But all this he does, not only with an air of ease, but as if he could not help doing it. His wit has in it essential properties of the same kind with that of Cowley and Donne. Like theirs it consisted in points of contrast and points of analogy too subtle for common observation. His tone was light and fleering, his topics were the topics of the club and ball-room, his strange combinations and *sprightly* allusions, though very closely resembling those which tire us to death in the poems of the time of Charles the First, are read with pleasure constantly new.—MACAULAY.

Stalk. The old meaning, of a quiet or even stealthy walk, is still retained in 'deer-stalking.' But the word now generally implies a proud and stately step.

She took the Princess by the hand, Madam, will ye *stalk*
Privily into the garden, and see the herbes growe.

LYDGATE.

Mrs. Siddons. Who shall sit majestic on the throne of Tragedy—a Goddess, a prophetess, and a muse—the lightning of her eye flash'd o'er the mind, startling its inmost thoughts, and the thunder of her voice circled through the labouring breast, rousing deep and scarce-known feelings from their slumber? Who shall *stalk* over the field of horrors, its presiding genius, or play the hostess at the banqueting scene of murder? Who shall walk in sleepless ecstasy of soul, and haunt the mind, aye, ever after, with the dread pageantry of suffering and guilt? While the stage lasts there will never be another Mrs. Siddons. Tragedy seemed to sit with her, and the rest are but blazing comets or fiery exhalations.—HAZLITT.

Stark. The old meaning, of stiff and strong, is obsolete.

Me carrying in his clawes *starke*,
As lightly as I were a lark.—CHAUCER.

Take from me, O Lord, this lukewarm or rather *stark*, cold manner of meditation, and this dulness of prayer.—Sir T. MORE.

Whom when the good Sir Guyon did behold,
His heart gan wax as *stark* as marble stone.
SPENSER.

Many a nobleman lies *stark* and stiff
Under the hoofs of vaunting enemies.
SHAKESPEARE, 1 *Henry IV*, v. 3.

As fast lock'd up in sleep as guiltless labour,
When it lies *starkly* in the traveller's bones.
Id., *Measure for Measure*, iv. 2.

Stark beer, boy, stout and strong beer.
BEAUMONT and FLETCHER.

Tell me, ye naturalists, who sounded the first march and retreat of the tide? Why does not the water recover his right over the earth, being higher in nature? Whence came the salt, and who boiled it, which made so much brine? When the winds are not only wild in a storm, but even *stark* mad in a hurricane, who is it that restores them again to their wits, and brings them asleep in a calm?—FULLER.

Starve. To perish; now only by hunger or cold.

Here *starf* the fair Narcissus.
Narcissus was a bachelere,
That love had caught in his dangere.—CHAUCER.

The career of Genius is rarely one of fortune or happiness, and the father who may not himself be insensible to glory, dreads lest his son be found among that obscure multitude, that populace of mean artists, self-deluded, yet self-satisfied, who must *starve* at the barrier of mediocrity.—I. DISRAELI.

Stay. To omit.

When you have done my message to them I require you not to *stay* to search thoroughly yourself, that I may be satisfied, and that with such convenient speed as you may.—Lord DUDLEY, *on Amy Robsart's death*.

Let us *stay* to consider to whom we owe our ameliorated condition, to the successive few in every age, more indeed in one age than another, but relatively to the mass of mankind always few—such men as the first Christians who proclaimed their doctrines to the pagan world, such lightnings as were flashed by Wickliff, Huss, Calvin, Zuinglius, Latimer, across the papal darkness, and such in our own times the agitating truths with which Thomas Clarkson and his excellent confederates, the Quakers, fought and conquered the legalised banditti of man-stealers.—COLERIDGE.

Stead. Used by Dryden for a bedstead.

Thou hast a chamber *stead*
Which Vulcan purposely contrived, there sleep
At pleasure.—DRYDEN.

It is a great convenience to those who want wit to furnish out a conversation that there is something or other, in all companies where it is wanted, substituted in its *stead*, which according to their taste does the business quite as well. That which we call punning is greatly affected by men of small intellects: thus, if you talk of a candle, he can deal with you, and if you ask him for some bread, a punster should think himself very ill-bred if he did not give it; and if he is not as well-bred as yourself he hopes for grains of allowance.—*Spectator*.

Still. No longer used in the sense of always.

I wonder that you will *still* be talking, Signior Benedick; nobody marks you.—SHAKESPEARE, *Much Ado about Nothing*, i. 1.

Still quiring to the young-eyed Cherubins.

Id., *Merchant of Venice*, v. 1.

Chymists would be rich if they could *still* do in great quantities what they have sometimes done in little.—BOYLE.

What would I give not to have heard the calamities fallen on the heads of the King and Queen of France. I know no more yet than of their being betrayed and stopped at Clermont, and ordered back to Paris with their children. What superabundance of woe! To expect insult, ignominy, a prison, perhaps separation, or death, without a ray of comfortable hope for these infants. That their imprisonment and danger should have been grievous I do not wonder, but to await dissension and anarchy amongst their tyrants was the best chance they had in store. But though both will *still* happen in time, I *still* believe what advantage either or both will produce may be very doubtful.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Stitches. Furrows.

And many men at plough, that drave earth here and there,
And turn'd up *stitches* orderly.—CHAPMAN.

Thomson. Those parts of any author which are most liable to be *stitched* in worsted and framed and glazed are not by any means always the best. The moral descriptions and reflections in Thomson's *Seasons* are in an admirable spirit, and written with great force and fervour. His poem of *Liberty* is not equally good, his Muse was too easy and good-natured for the subject. Spleen is the soul of patriotism and of public good, but you would not expect a man who has been seen eating peaches off a wall with both hands in his pockets to be overcome with spleen, or to heat himself needlessly about an abstract idea.—HAZLITT.

Stomach. Pride.

Mr. Travers, whom your Lordship names in your letter, is to no man I think better known than to myself. I did elect him Fellow of Trinity, being before rejected by Mr. Beaumont for his intolerable *stomach*, whereof I had afterwards such experience that I was forced by due punishment so to weary him that he was fain to travel and depart from the college to Geneva.—Archbishop WHITGIFT to Lord Burleigh.

He was a man
Of an unbounded *stomach*, ever ranking
Himself with Princes.—SHAKESPEARE, *Henry VIII*, iv. 2.

Can you dress the boys' hair? No: then you won't do for a school. Have you had the small-pox? No: then you won't do for a school. Can you lie three in a bed? No: then you will never do for a school. Have you a good *stomach*? Yes? then you will by no means do for a school.—GOLDSMITH.

Strait. Narrow.

Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life.—*Authorised Version, Matthew vii. 14.*

Irishman. He is a flying enemy, hiding himself in woods and bogs from whence he will not draw forth but into some *strait* passage or perillous foard.—SPENSER.

Stranger. A foreigner.

Queen Mary had made an odious marriage with a *stranger*, which is now in question whether your Majesty shall do so or no.—SIR PHILIP SIDNEY to *Queen Elizabeth.*

I am a most poor woman and a *stranger*,
Born out of your dominions, having here
No judge indifferent, nor no more assurance
Of equal friendship and proceeding.

SHAKSPEARE, *Henry VIII*, ii. 4.

The facility with which we received the literature of *foreign* countries instead of being a reason for neglecting our own is a strong motive for its cultivation. It were better to have no literature than form ourselves unresistingly on a foreign one. The true sovereigns of a country are those who determine its mind, its modes of thinking, its tastes, its principles, and we cannot consent to lodge this sovereignty in the hands of *strangers*. A country, like an individual, has dignity and power only in proportion as it is self-formed. We say let others spin and weave for us, but let them not think for us.—W. E. CHANNING.

Subscribe. To submit, obey.

For Hector in his blaze of wrath *subscribes*
To tender objects.

SHAKSPEARE, *Troilus and Cressida*, iv. 5.

I never gave you kingdoms, call'd you children ;
 You owe me no *subscription* ; why then let fall
 Your horrible pleasure.—SHAKSPEARE, *King Lear*, iii. 2.

A pun may easily be too curious and artificial. Who has not been to a party of professors in that line where after making a poor word run the gauntlet till it is ready to drop, after hunting and winding it through all the possible *ambages* of similar sounds, after squeezing and hauling and tugging at it, till the very milk of it will not yield one drop further, suddenly some obscure, unthought-of fellow in a corner, whom the company passed over as we do by a known poor man when a money *subscription* is going round, makes a Robin Hood's shot so exquisite that anything ulterior to that is despaired of.—C. LAMB.

Suddenly. Once, like the Italian *subito*, quickly, directly, and not always, as now, unexpectedly.

May it please my Lord to taste a glass of Greek wine first, and *suddenly* she shall attend my Lord.—MASSINGER.

This last letter is written with so urgent and serious an air that I cannot but think it incumbent upon me to comply with her commands which I shall do very *suddenly*.—STEELE.

Titian's 'Bacchus and Ariadne.' Precipitous with his reeling Satyrs about him, re-peopling and re-illuminating *suddenly* the waste places, drunk with a new fury beyond the grape, Bacchus, born of fire, fire-like, flings himself at the Cretan, with the desert all ringing with the mad cymbals of his followers. Made lucid with the presence and new offers of a god, as if unconscious of Bacchus, or but idly casting her eyes as upon some unconcerning pageant—her soul undistracted from Theseus, Ariadne is still pacing the solitary shore.—C. LAMB.

Sufficient. Now 'enough,' but once had a stronger meaning of 'ample.'

A full, perfect and *sufficient* sacrifice.—*Book of Common Prayer.*

Dr. Johnson. He emerged at length from cock-lofts and

sixpenny ordinaries into the society of the polished and the opulent. His fame was established. A pension *sufficient* for his wants had been conferred upon him, and he came forth to astonish a generation with which he had almost as little in common as with Frenchmen and Spaniards.—MACAULAY.

Suggest. To tempt.

Lafeu. Hold thee, there's my purse: I give thee not this to *suggest* thee from thy master thou talk'st of; serve him still.—SHAKSPEARE, *All's Well that Ends Well*, iv. 5.

When devils will their blackest sins put on,
They do *suggest* at first with heavenly shows,
As I do now.—Id., *Othello*, ii. 3.

The Welsh have fiends peculiar to themselves whom they call 'Anson's dogs.' The name Anson signifies the 'unknown.' This being is the enemy of mankind, and his dogs are frequently heard hunting in the air. To these dogs I conceive Shakspeare alludes when he talks of the noise of hunters heard in the air in his *Tempest*, and spirits in the shapes of dogs; and for this and many other peculiarities relative to Wales he was probably indebted to Sir John Price, the Antiquary, who lived much in the English Courts. It is *suggested* that the cries heard in the air may have proceeded from the flight of wild birds during the darkness of the night.—OWEN JONES.

T.

Taint. Now, to infect; but once, to stain, or dye.

To *taint* his tresses in the Tyrrhene main.

MARLOW, *Dido*.

A life of gambling and intrigue and faction left the nature of Charles Fox as little *tainted* with selfishness and falsehood, and his heart as little hardened, as if he had lived and died in a farm-house, or rather as if he had not outlived his childish years.—BROUGHAM.

Tale. A reckoning, a number *told*: now, a story.

The *tale* of bricks which they did make.—*Authorised Version, Exodus* v. 8.

And every shepherd tells his *tale*,
Under the hawthorn in the vale.—MILTON.

What a supremely interesting business in age after age is the choice of the Pope! As for romance, what is there to be compared to the History of the Popes? Such works as Ranke and Milman have written are, to the mature mind, what the *Tales* of the Genii are to the child. Now you have a man dragged from the hermit's cell in which he cannot stand upright, to be the potentate of potentates of the earth.—Sir A. HELPS.

Talent. Applied to the will or appetite.

And al to-torn lay eke her hair
About her shoulders here and there,
As she that had it al to-rent
For anger and for mal *talent*.—CHAUCER.

The nation generally was without any ill *talent* to the Church.
—Lord CLARENDON.

Byron. I never knew any one climb so high. He wrote from impulse, never from effort, and therefore I have ever reckoned Burns and Byron the most genuine poetical geniuses of modern time. Half a century before we have many men of high poetical *talent*, but none, I think, of that ever gushing and perennial fountain of natural waters.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Tall. High-spirited, courageous.

As *tall* a trencherman, that is most certain, as e'er demolished pie fortifications as soon as batter'd.—BEN JONSON.

A *tall* man is never his own man till he is angry. What's a *tall* man unless he fights?—Id.

There are assembled those heads which live for ever on the canvas of Reynolds. There are the spectacles of Burke and the *tall* thin form of Langton, the courtly sneer of Beauclerk and the beaming smile of Garrick, Gibbon tapping his snuffbox, and Sir Joshua with his trumpet in his ear. In the foreground is

that strange figure which is as familiar to us as the figures of those among whom we have been brought up; we see the eyes and mouth moving with convulsive twitches, then comes the 'Why, Sir?' and the 'What then, Sir?' and the 'No, Sir,' and the 'You don't see your way through the question, Sir.'—MACAULAY.

Task. Probably the same word as 'tax,' in which sense it occurs.

He deposed the King,
Soon after that deprived him of his life,
And in the neck of that, *task'd* the whole state.

SHAKSPEARE, 1 *Henry IV*, iv. 3.

Necker tells us that the era of threescore years and ten is an agreeable age for writing. Your mind has not lost its vigour, and envy leaves you in peace. 'If man be a bubble it is time I should hasten my *task*, for my eightieth year admonishes me to get my baggage together ere I leave the world,' wrote Varro.—I. DISRAELI.

Taste. To try or feel, not only with the tongue or palate.

Taste your legs, Sir!—SHAKSPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, iii. 1.

Milton. Like the hero of Homer he enjoyed all the pleasures of fascination, but he was not fascinated; he listened to the song of the Sirens, yet he glided by without being seduced to their fatal shore: he *tasted* the cup of Circe, but he wore about him a sure antidote against the effects of its bewitching sweetness.—MACAULAY.

Tease. Originally, to pull or pluck; and so, to vex. To 'toze' is probably the same word.

He bare a bente bow,
And he with that an arrow hathe hent,
And gan to *teise* it in the bow.—GOWER.

Think'st thou for that I insinuate, or *toze* from thee thy business, I am therefore no courtier?—SHAKSPEARE, *Winter's Tale*, iv. 3.

Bridget must have a story—well, ill, or indifferently told—so there be life stirring in it and plenty of good or evil accidents. Narrative *teases* me. I have little concern in the progress of events; out-of-the-way humours and opinions, heads with some diverting twist in them, the oddities of authorship please me most.—C. LAMB.

Temper. Once used for constitution of both body and mind.

Of a most healthful *temper*, of a lively colour, and vigorous limbs.—*Description of Fuller*.

How comes this, Sir John? Fie, what man of good *temper* would endure this tempest of exclamation?—SHAKESPEARE, 2 *Henry IV*, ii. 1.

Hampden very seldom rose till late in a debate; his speaking was of that kind which has in every age been held in the highest estimation by English Parliaments. Ready, weighty, perspicuous, condensed, his perception of the feeling of the House was exquisite, his *temper* unalterably placid, his manner eminently courteous.—MACAULAY.

Tempt. Now, to entice; but formerly, to put to the proof.

God did *tempt* Abraham.—*Authorised Version*, Gen. xxii. 1.

Our creed is that the science of government is an experimental science, and that like all other experimental sciences it is generally in a state of progression. No man is so obstinate an admirer of the old times as to deny that medicine, surgery, botany, chemistry, engineering, navigation, are better understood now than in any former age. We are *tempted* to say that it is the same with political science. Like those other sciences which we have mentioned it has always been working itself clearer and clearer, and depositing impurity after impurity. There was a time when the most powerful of human intellects were deluded by the gibberish of the astrologer and the alchymist, and just so there was a time when the most enlightened and virtuous statesmen thought it the first duty of a government to persecute heretics, to found monasteries, to make war on Saracens.—MACAULAY.

Tender. Used by Shakspeare in the meaning of 'regard' or 'guard.'

Thou hast shew'd thou mak'st some *tender* of my life
In this fair rescue thou hast brought me to.

SHAKSPEARE, 1 *Henry IV*, v. 4.

Be opposite all planets of good luck
To my proceeding, if, with pure heart's love,
Immaculate devotion, holy thoughts,
I *tender* not thy beauteous princely daughter.

Id., *Richard III*, iv. 4.

I *tender* so the safety of my liege.—Id., 2 *Henry VI*, iii. 1.

Female's virtues are of a domestic turn, the family is the proper province for private women to shine in. If they must be showing their zeal for the public, let it be against those who are open, professed, undoubted enemies of their faith, liberty and country. When the Romans were pressed by a common enemy, the ladies voluntarily *tendered* all their rings and jewels.—ADDISON.

Termagant. Now applied to women of violent temper, but, like 'shrew' and 'witch,' not originally confined to the female sex.

He expresses his concern that she should fall into the hands of such *Tarmagants* (*Lord Mayor's Officers*). 1593.

I could have such a fellow whipp'd for o'erdoing *Termagant* ;
it out-herods Herod, pray you avoid it.—SHAKSPEARE, *Hamlet*,
iii. 2.

If the literary man unites himself to a woman whose tastes and whose temper are adverse to his pursuits, he must courageously prepare for a martyrdom. If she becomes jealous of his books, she may act the *termagant* over his innocent papers. The wife of Bishop Cooper, while her husband was employed on his Lexicon, one day consigned the volume of many years to the flames, and obliged that scholar to begin another siege of Troy in a second Lexicon.—I. DISRAELI.

Thews. Formerly used for mental as well as bodily endowments.

His prowess passed his manners, his witte passed his prowess, his faire speech passed his witte, his good *thews* passed his faire speech. HYDEN, *Character of Archbishop Rhys, Prince of South Wales*.

I felt the *thews* of Anakim,
The pulses of a Titan's heart.—TENNYSON.

Thought. Anxious expectation or care is often the meaning in old writers.

And leifer had I to be in his Grace's service at the furthest end of Christendom, than to live thus wretchedly and die of *thought*, sorrow and care.—MS. *Letter of Lord Edward Howard to Cardinal Wolsey*.

Hawes, an alderman of London, was put in trouble and died with *thought* and anguish.—BACON.

Take no *thought* for your life.—*Authorised Version, Matt. vi. 22.*

Macaulay. What is it that promotes the most and the deepest *thought* in the human race? It is not learning, it is not conduct of business, it is not even the impulse of the affections,—it is suffering. And that, perhaps, is the reason there is so much suffering in the world. The angel that went down to trouble the waters and to make them healing was not, perhaps, intrusted with so great a boon as the angel who benevolently inflicted upon the sufferers the disease from which they suffered.—Sir A. HELPS.

Throw. Time; or, as some say, a throw or cast of the eye.

For wisdom is at every *throw*
Above all other thing to know.—GOWER.

Thus starf this worthy mighty Hercules,
Lo, who may trust on fortune any *throw*?

CHAUCER, *The Monk's Tale*.

One man likes no preaching but what contains a string of appeals and queries, adjurations unconnected with principles, unsupported by reasoning, and loose as a rope of sand. This is called, though falsely, *practical* preaching. Another wants a sermon to be a series of electric shocks, one burst from beginning to end, this is the *clap-trap* idea of preaching. Another wants flowers *thrown* in, whether natural and fresh from the soil, or artificial and faded it does not matter, he likes to hear them rustling about his ears in the breeze of brilliant declamation. This is the florid or *Corinthian* idea of preaching.—GILFILLAN.

Tide. Occurs in early English for 'time' or 'season.'

There they alight in hope themselves to hide
From the fierce heat, and rest their weary limbs a *tide*.
SPENSER.

He that would take a Lancaster man
At any turn or *tide*,
Must bait his hook with a good egg-pie,
Or an apple with a red side.—RAY'S *Proverbs*.

The attempt of the Lords to stop the progress of Reform reminds me very forcibly of the hailstorm of Sidmouth, and of the conduct of the excellent Mrs. Partington on the occasion. In the winter of 1824 there set in a great flood upon that town: the *tide* rose to an incredible height, the waves rushed in upon the houses, and everything was threatened with destruction. In the midst of this sublime and terrible storm Dame Partington, who lived upon the beach, was seen at the door of her house with mop and pattens, trundling her mop, squeezing out the seawater, and pushing away the Atlantic Ocean. The Atlantic was roused, Mrs. Partington's spirit was up, but I need not tell you that the contest was unequal. The Atlantic Ocean beat Mrs. Partington, she was excellent at a slop, or a puddle, but she should not have meddled with a tempest. Gentlemen, be at your ease, be quiet and steady; you will beat Mrs. Partington.—SYDNEY SMITH, *Speech at Taunton, on the Reform Bill*.

Timely. Punctual: now, seasonable, opportune.

He is *timely* at the beginning of Common Prayer.—FULLER, *The Good Parishioner*.

Physic, for the most part, is nothing else but the substitute of exercise or temperance. Accordingly we find that those parts of the world are the most healthy where they subsist by the chase, and that men lived longest when their lives were employed in hunting, and when they had little food besides what they caught. Blistering, cupping, and bleeding are seldom of use but to the idle and intemperate; the apothecary brings in his *timely* aid to countermince the cook and the vintner.—ADDISON.

Tire. To prey upon.

Whose haughty spirit, winged with desire,
Will cost my crown, and like an empty eagle
Tire in the flesh of me and of my son.

SHAKESPEARE, 3 *Henry VI*, i. 1.

And left wrath *tyring* on her soul.—CHAPMAN.

Active employments in the decline of life constitute often the happiness of literary men, the study of the arts and literature spread a sunshine over the winter of their days, and their own works may be as delightful to themselves as roses plucked by the Norwegians amidst their snows. 'My works are many and I am old, yet I can still fatigue and *tire* myself with writing more,' says Petrarch in his epistle to posterity. The literary character has been fully occupied in the eightieth and the ninetieth year of life. Isaac Walton, in his ninetieth year, enriched the poetical world by publishing a romantic tale by Chalkhill, the friend of Spenser.—I. DISRAELI.

To. The origin of 'to' having the force of 'this' in 'to-day,' 'to-night,' 'to-morrow,' appears in the following passage from Chaucer:—

And ever more two and two in fere,
Right so as they had chosen them *to-year*,
In Februere upon St. Valentine's day.—CHAUCER.

As Sir Roger was going on in his story, the gentleman we were talking of came up to us, and upon the Knight's asking him who preached *to-morrow* (for it was Saturday night), told us the

Bishop of St. Asaph in the morning, and Dr. South in the afternoon. He then showed us his list of preachers for the whole year. I no sooner saw this venerable man in the pulpit than I very much approved of my friend's insisting upon the qualifications of a good aspect, and a clear voice; a sermon repeated after this manner is like the composition of a poet in the mouth of a graceful actor.—ADDISON.

Toward. Near at hand: now obsolete in this sense.

Edg. Do you hear aught, Sir, of a battle *toward*?

Gent. Most sure and vulgar: every one hears that,
Which can distinguish sound.

SHAKSPEARE, *King Lear*, iv. 6.

Toy. A trifle.

My *toyful* books I will send by God's help by February.—
Sir P. SIDNEY.

Toyish airs please trivial ears.—QUARLES.

There is a *toy* which I have heard and I would not have it given over, but waited upon a little. They say it is observed in the low countries that every five-and-thirty years the same kind and suit of years and weather comes about again, as great frosts, great wet, great droughts, warm winters, summers with little heat, and the like.—BACON.

And here is a Chinese nurse-maid, Ho, Fi, chiding a fretful little Pekin child. The urchin hath just such another *toy* as might be purchased at our own Mr. Dunnett's. It argues an advanced state of civilization where the children have many playthings.—T. HOOD.

Translated. Transformed.

Bless thee, Bottom! bless thee, thou art *translated*.

SHAKSPEARE, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, iii. 1.

To wit, I kill thee, make thee away, *translate* thy life into death, thy liberty into bondage.—Id., *As You Like It*, v. 1.

Cervantes is the delight of all classes of readers; every school-

boy thumbs to pieces the most wretched *translation* of his romance. The most experienced and fastidious judges are amazed at the perfection of that art which extracts inextinguishable laughter from the greatest of human calamities without once violating the reverence due to it, at that discriminating delicacy of touch which makes a character exquisitely ridiculous without impairing its worth, its grace, or its dignity.—MACAULAY.

Trim. Array, an obsolete sense.

The horrid *trims* of war.—BEAUMONT and FLETCHER.

And took them in the *trim* of an encounter.—CHAPMAN.

We were no sooner come to the Temple stairs but we were surrounded by a crowd of watermen. Sir Roger having looked about him very attentively spied one with a wooden leg, and immediately gave him orders to get his boat ready. As we were walking towards it, 'You must know,' says Sir Roger, 'I never make use of any body to row me that has not lost a leg or an arm. If I were a Lord or a Bishop, and kept a barge, I would not put a fellow in my livery that had not a wooden leg.' My old friend having seated himself and *trimmed* the boat with his coachman, we made the best of our way to Vauxhall.—ADDISON.

Trinkets. Now confined to small ornaments, but once included tackle and tools.

St. Dunstan was in his vocation making some iron *trinkets* (pincers).—FULLER.

What husbandly husbands, unless they be fools,
But handsome have storehouse for *trinkets* and tools?

TUSSER.

Their tribe, trade, *trinkets*, I defy them all
With every work of Potheecaries' Hall.—DRYDEN.

In Horace Walpole's Villa every apartment was a museum. Every piece of furniture is a curiosity, there is something strange in the form of the shovel, there is a long story belonging to the bell-rope, we wander among a profusion of varieties of trifling intrinsic value, but so quaint in fashion, or connected with such remarkable names and events, that they may well detain our

attention for a moment. Some new relic, some new unique, some new carved work, some new enamel is forthcoming in an instant. One cabinet of *trinkets* is no sooner closed than another is opened.
—MACAULAY.

Triste. An appointed place of meeting, originally in hunting.

I see hunting, I see hornes blow,
Houndes run, the deer draw adown,
And at her *triste* bows set arow,
Now in August this lusty fresche season.

Old Ballad.

And named a *trysting* place
And bade his messengers ride forth,
East and West and South and North,
To summon his array.—MACAULAY.

Trot. To walk. In the passage quoted below from Shakspeare, 'trotting' is apparently intended to mean a slower pace than ambling.

No one in this world *trotteth* whole in all.—CHAUCER.

For of her can no man thank deserve
That *trotteth* on the dry land.—LYDGATE.

Ros. Time travels in divers paces with divers persons. I'll tell you who time ambles withal, who time *trots* withal, who time gallops withal, and who he stands still withal.

Orl. I prythee, who does he *trot* withal?

Ros. Marry, he *trots* hard with a young maid, between the contract of her marriage and the day it is solemnised; if the interim be but a se'nnight, time's pace is so hard that it seems the length of seven years.

Orl. Who ambles time withal?

Ros. With a priest that lacks Latin, and a rich man that hath not the gout.—SHAKSPEARE, *As You Like It*, iii. 2.

Duke of Newcastle. He was a living, moving, talking caricature, his gait was a shuffling *trot*, his utterance a rapid stutter, he was always in a hurry, he was never in time, he abounded in fulsome caresses and in hysterical tears. His oratory resembled

that of Justice Shallow, it was nonsense effervescent with animal spirits and impertinence; of his ignorance many anecdotes remain, Oh—yes—yes—to be sure, Annapolis must be defended—troops must be sent to Annapolis—pray where is Annapolis? And this man, during nearly thirty years, was Secretary of State.—MACAULAY.

Troublesome. Troubled : now rather, inconvenient, annoying.

The *troublesome* life of King John.—*Old Play*.

Intemperance is a certain enemy to felicity, making life unpleasant and death *troublesome* and intolerable.—FULLER.

The nonchalance of boys who are sure of a dinner and would disdain, as much as a lord, to do anything to conciliate one, is the healthy attitude of human nature. A boy is, in the parlour, what the pit is in the playhouse, independent, irresponsible, looking out from his corner on such people and facts as pass by. He tries and sentences them on their merits in the swift summary way of boys, as good, bad, interesting, silly, eloquent, *troublesome*; he cumbers himself never about consequences, about interests, he gives an independent general verdict.—EMERSON.

Tumble. To disturb.

For Madame saith, if the fire blazeth already, why should you *tumble* it?—BACON.

As I was *tumbling* about the town the other day in a hackney-coach, and delighting myself with busy scenes in the shops on each side of me, it came into my head with no small remorse that I had not been frequent enough in the mention and recommendation of the industrious part of mankind.—STEELE.

Turnpike. Winding stairs.

It is related that the King (James I) was led up a *turnpike* and through two or three chambers, Master Alexander ever locking behind him every door as he passed.—*The Gowrie Plot*.

England, to be sure, is a very expensive country; but a million of millions has been expended in making it habitable

and comfortable. The price an Englishman pays for a *turnpike* road is not equal to a tenth part of what the delay would cost him without a *turnpike*. The New River Company brings water to every inhabitant of London at an infinitely less price than he could dip for it out of the Thames. No country, in fact, is so expensive as one which human beings are just beginning to inhabit—where there are no roads, no bridges, no skill, no help, no combination of powers, and no force of capital.—
 SYDNEY SMITH.

Twin. To separate—an obsolete meaning.

Hath nature given them eyes
 To see this vaulted arch, and the rich crop
 Of sea and land, which can distinguish twixt
 The fiery orbs above, and the *twinn'd* stones
 Upon the numbered beach?

SHAKSPEARE, *Cymbeline*, i. 7.

She has *twinn'd* the young thing and its life,
 A word he never spake ma'er.

Old Ballad, The Jew's Daughter.

Twist. An old name for a small twig.

And on the small green *twistis* sat
 The little sweete nightingale and sang.

JAMES I. of Scotland.

Lo, here they are confined by magic spell,
 So that each tree hath life, and sense each bough ;
 A murderer if thou cut one *twist* art thou.

FAIRFAX, *Tasso*.

U.

Umbrage. Occurs in the literal meaning of shelter, protection.

My Lord, it is under your *umbrage* only I would court protection.—MASSINGER.

I made a visit yesterday to the Abbess of Panthemon. I enquired after her mother, and I thought I might, to a spiritual votary to eternity, venture to say that her mother must be very old. She interrupted me tartly and said, No, that her mother had married extremely young. Do but think of its seeming importance to a Saint to take *umbrage* and sink a wrinkle of her own, through the iron gate of a Convent. Oh, we are ridiculous animals, and if the Angels have any fun about them, how we must divert them!—HORACE WALPOLE.

Unaccustomed. Unseemly; unfamiliar.

You of my household, leave this peevish broil,
And set this *unaccustomed* fight aside.

SHAKESPEARE, I *Henry VI*, iii. 1.

Music. The next step to our refinement was the introducing Italian actors into our Opera, who sang their parts in their own language at the same time that our countrymen performed theirs in our native tongue. The lover frequently made his court and gained the heart of his Princess in a language which she did not understand. This was the state of the English stage for about three years; at length the audience grew tired of understanding half the opera, and therefore, to ease themselves entirely of the fatigue of thinking, they have so ordered it at present that the whole opera is performed in an *unaccustomed* tongue.—*Spectator*.

His dwelling was solitary and vault-like—an old, retired part of an ancient endowment for students, once a brave edifice, planted in an open space, but now the obsolete whim of forgotten architects squeezed on every side by the overgrowing of the great city; its grass-plots struggling with the mildewed earth to be grass, or to win any show of compromise; its silent pavements *unaccustomed* to the tread of feet.—DICKENS, *The Haunted Man*.

Uncouth. Out of the common, strange, odd: and so, awkward, unbecoming.

She had no thought but if it were only
To grayth [clothe] her wel and *uncouthly*.—CHAUCER.

The Tragedis divers and *uncouth* of moral sense.

GOWER.

Of Christe's gospel he gan the seeds to sewe,
Uncouth miracles wroughte with his handes.—LYDGATE.

I am surprised with an *uncouth* fear.

SHAKSPEARE, *Titus Andronicus*, ii. 4.

All cleane dismayed to see so *uncouth* sight.

SPENSER, *Fairy Queen*, i. 50.

Thus sang the *uncouth* swain to the oaks and rills,
Whilst the still morn went out with sandals gray;
He touched the tender stops of various quills,
With eager thought warbling his Doric lay.—MILTON.

Mr. North and Dr. Clarke and all the great company being gone, I found myself very *uncouth* all this day for want thereof.—S. PEPYS.

Swift. But there were other inmates of Moor Park—an eccentric, *uncouth*, disagreeable young Irishman attended Sir William Temple as an amanuensis. Little did Temple imagine that the coarse exterior of his dependent concealed a genius equally suited to politics and to letters.—MACAULAY.

Uneasy. Occurs in the sense of 'difficult': now rather, uncomfortable.

It was presently counted a place very hardly and *uneasily* to be inhabited for the great cold.—HACKLUYT, *Voyages*, vol. iii.

There is a class of street-readers whom I can never contemplate without affection—the poor gentry who, not having wherewithal to buy or hire a book, fetch a little learning at the open stalls, the man with his hard eye casting envious looks at them all the while and thinking when they will have done. Martin B. on his way by daily fragments got through two volumes of *Clarissa*; he declares that under no circumstances of his life did he ever peruse a book with half the satisfaction which he took in these *uneasy* snatches.—C. LAMB.

Unequal. Unjust.

You are *unequal* to me.—BEN JONSON.

Unequal to myself.—MASSINGER.

It might afford an illustration of the fallaciousness of political speculations, to contrast the hopes and inquietudes that agitated the minds of men concerning the inheritance of the crown during Elizabeth's lifetime, while no less than fourteen titles were idly or mischievously reckoned up, with the perfect tranquillity that accompanied the accession of her successor. The House of Suffolk, whose claim was legally indisputable, if we admit the testament of Henry the Eighth, appears to have lost ground in public opinion through an *unequal* marriage of Lord Beauchamp with a private gentlewoman.—HALLAM.

Unexpressive. Inexpressible; an obsolete meaning.

Carve on every tree
The fair, the chaste, the *unexpressive* she.
SHAKSPEARE, *As You Like It*, iii. 2.

Unhappy. Unfortunate.

A shrewd knave, and an *unhappy*.
SHAKSPEARE, *All's Well that Ends Well*, iv. 5.

Prince Rupert, I hear, is to go this day to command this fleet going to Guinea against the Dutch. I doubt few will be pleased at his going, being accounted an *unhappy* man.—S. PEPYS.

Byron's Funeral. We well remember that on that day rigid moralists could not refrain from weeping for one so young, so *unhappy*, gifted with such rare gifts and tried by such strong temptations.—MACAULAY.

Unkind. Ungrateful, unfortunate.

Unkindly they slew him that holp them oft at need :
He was their bulwark, their pavice, and their wall ;
Yet shamefully they slew him, that shame might them
befall.—SKELTON.

Some would have it that the Duke and all were lost, others that all were saved and the ship only lost, but all generally con-

cluded it a very unfortunate and *unkind* disaster.—*Letter from Hewer to Samuel Pepys.*

Windham. His conversation, or grave, or gay, or argumentative, or discursive, whether sifting a difficult subject or painting an interesting character, or pursuing a merely playful fancy, or lively to very drollery, or pensive and pathetic, or losing itself in the clouds of metaphysics, or vexed with paradox, or plain and homely and all but common-place, was that which, to be understood, must have been listened to : and while over the whole was flung a veil of unrent classical elegance, through no crevice, had there been any, would ever an *unkind* or ill-conditioned sentiment have found entrance.—BROUGHAM.

Unquestionable. Uninquisitive.

An *unquestionable* spirit, which you have not.

SHAKESPEARE, *As You Like It*, iii. 2.

You and I, my friend, left happiness when we deviated from the beaten track, the turnpike road of life;—wives, children, alliances, visits, the ordinary employments of the world, are all necessary ingredients of happiness ; a man may *unquestionably* be miserable with them, but without them he cannot be happy.—SHENSTONE.

Unvalued. Invaluable, inestimable.

'Mongst which, there in a silver dish did lye
Two golden apples of *unvaled*'d price.

SPENSER, *Sonnets*.

Chryses the priest came to the fleet to buy,
For presents of *unvalued* price, his daughter's liberty.

CHAPMAN, *Iliad*, Bk. i.

Where then are all thy death-borne shafts and that *unvalued*
bow
Apollo gave thee ?—Id.

I thought I saw a thousand fearful wrecks,
Inestimable stones, *unvalued* jewels.

SHAKESPEARE, *Richard III*, i. 4.

Hath from the lines of thy *unvalued* book
The Delphic lines of deep impression took.

MILTON, *Epitaph on Shakspeare*.

Bruce sank into his grave defrauded of that just fame which his pride and vivacity perhaps too dearly prized. Mortified and indignant at the reception of his great labour, *unvalued* by the cold-hearted scepticism of little minds and the maliciousness of idling wits, he could not endure the laugh and scorn of public opinion. For Bruce there was a simoon more dreadful than the Arabian, and from which genius cannot hide his head.—I. DISRAELI.

Usury. Formerly interest for money lent, but now excessive or illegal interest.

Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with *usury*.—*Authorised Version, Matt. xxv. 27.*

Usury, stock-jobbing, extortion, and oppression have their seed in the dread of want, and vanity, riot, and prodigality from the shame of it; but both these excesses are infinitely below the pursuit of a reasonable creature.—ADDISON.

Utter. To send out, to sell: now, to express.

Gardeners, taking their seeds and slips and rearing them first into plants, and so *uttering* them in pots when they are in flower and in their best state.—BACON.

Here sleeps he soundly all the night,
Forgetting morrow's cares,
Nor fears the blasting of his corn
Or *uttering* of his wares.—*Old Ballad.*

So that at present several young men of the town, and particularly such as have been polished in France, make use of the most coarse uncivilized words in our language, and *utter* themselves often in such a manner as a clown would blush to hear.—ADDISON.

In fact the colonists left them no mark that baptized men had set foot in Darien except a few Anglo-Saxon curses, which

having been *uttered* more frequently and with greater energy than any other words in our language, had caught the ear of the native population of the Isthmus of Darien.—MACAULAY.

V.

Vacant. Free from care.

Duke of Buckingham. The Duke had a pleasant and *vacant* face, proceeding from a singular assurance in his temper.—WOTTON.

Who always *vacant*, always amiable,
Hopes thee of flattering gales unmindful.

MILTON.

The Congreve muse is dead, and her song choked in Time's ashes. We gaze at the skeleton and wonder at the life which once revelled in its mad veins; we take the skull up and muse over the frolic and daring, the wit, scorn, passion, hope, desire, with which that empty bowl once fermented. We think of the glances that allured, the tears that melted, of the bright eyes that shone in those *vacant* sockets, and of lips whispering love, and cheeks dimpling with smiles, that once covered that ghastly frame-work.—THACKERAY.

Vacate. To find room or leisure.

Do you think that men of business never *vacate* to admire the works of nature because they possess so many works of art? —JOHN EVELYN.

The Trombone. I had not practised more than twenty-four hours upon this instrument than my landlady intimated to me that I must *vacate* my apartments.—*The Musician.*

Valiant. Obstreperous.

Sturdy and *valiant* beggars to be whipped at the cart's tail.—*Statute of Edward III.*

Prince Eugene. This Prince is wise and *valiant*, which noble faculties in conjunction banish all vain-glory, ostentation, ambition, and all other vices which might intrude upon his mind to make it unequal.—STEELE.

Validity. Used by Shakspeare for 'value.'

As the sea; nought enters there,
Of what *validity* and pitch soever,
But falls into abatement and low price.

SHAKSPEARE, *Twelfth Night*, i. 1.

O behold this ring,
Whose high respect and rich *validity*
Did lack a parallel.

Id., *All's Well that Ends Well*, v. 3.

Henry VIII. In order to efface as much as possible all marks of his first marriage, Lord Mountjoy was sent to the unfortunate and divorced Queen to inform her that she was henceforth to be treated only as Princess Dowager of Wales. But she continued obstinate in maintaining the *validity* of her marriage, and she would admit no person to her presence who did not approach her with the accustomed ceremonies.—HUME.

Variety. Vicissitude.

Diligence, piety and learning, the best preparations for the succeeding *varieties* of life.—BARROW.

One of the greatest pleasures of life is conversation, and the pleasures of conversation are, of course, enhanced by every increase of knowledge. There is always a prodigious difference between the conversation of those who have been well educated and those who have not enjoyed this advantage. Education gives *variety* of thought, copiousness of illustration, quickness, vigour, fancy, words, images, and illustration; it decorates every common thing, and gives the power of trifling without being undignified and absurd.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Vengeance. The meaning has changed from retributive justice to angry retaliation.

The thief fell overboard al sodainly
And in the sea he drench'd for *vengeance*.—CHAUCER.

He will not spare in the day of *vengeance*.—*Authorised Version*,
Prov. iv. 34.

An assembly of the people was summoned, in which the letters and their bearer were produced; which so excited the Commonalty against their treacherous Prince (Aristocrates) that he was stoned to death, a pillar being erected with an inscription, warning future chiefs of the *vengeance* of the Deity, which unfailingly, sooner or later, overtakes traitors and perjurers.—MITFORD.

Vex. To disturb, persecute.

He was many times committed to prison, for his wrongful *vexation*.—LAMBARD'S *Commentaries*.

He is a common *vexer*, persecutor, and molester of worthy and painful ministers, and a countenancer of those who are negligent, scandalous, and profane.—*Charges against Pierce, Bishop of Bath and Wells*, 1642.

Nor slept the winds
Within their stony caves, but rushed abroad
From the four hinges of the world, and fell
On the *vex'd* wilderness.—MILTON.

Toil is the lot of man, and not of the poor man exclusively; we shall find on examination that the labours of the rich are as irksome as the labours of the indigent. The wealthy merchant who plans a voyage, and who is perplexed with the intricacy of accounts and *vexed* with the blunders, idleness, or unfaithfulness of more than one person employed by him, toils at least as hard as the seaman and porter who receive his wages. There is a pride, perhaps a pleasure, in commanding the services of others, but there is much more trouble in keeping them at work than in working ourselves.—FREEMAN.

Viands. Used by Shakspeare for drinkables.

Our *viands* sparkling in a golden cup.
SHAKSPEARE, 3 *Henry VI*, ii. 5.

Homer tells us that upon Diomedes wounding the gods, there

flowed from the wound an ichor, or pure kind of blood, which was not bred from mortal *viands*; and that though the pain was exquisitely great, the wound soon closed up and healed in those beings who are vested with immortality.—ADDISON.

Virtuous. Having magic properties.

Out of his hand

That *virtuous* steel he rudely snatched away.—SPENSER.

Planet Mars. And eke his herbe in special

The *virtuous* fennel is.—GOWER.

It is a remarkable fact that with us, a grave and meditative people, ridicule is more dangerous and powerful in its effects than it is with our lighter neighbours the French. Ridicule in Paris attaches itself to the manners, in London to the emotions; it sneers with us less at a vulgar tone, a bad address, an ill-chosen equipage, than at some mental enthusiasm. At no time has it been the fashion in France to ridicule lofty and noble motives; they have an instantaneous perception of the exalted. The lively women of Paris were charmed with the adoration of *virtue* professed by Rousseau. We do not laugh at vulgar Lords half so much as at the generosity of patriots, or the devotion of philosophers.—LYTTON.

Volatile. Winged; and so, changeable, light, spirited.

The Egyptians were the first asserters of the soul's immortality and of its transmigration into the bodies of other animals successively; viz. until it have run through the whole circuit of terrestrial, marine, and *volatile* animals.—CUDWORTH.

I was further instructed in Moral Philosophy at the class of Mr. Dugald Stewart, whose striking and impressive eloquence riveted the attention even of the most *volatile* student.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Volley. At random; from the French *à la volée*.
Now, a discharge.

What we spake on the *volley* begins to work ;
We have laid a good foundation.

MASSINGER, *Picture* iii. 6.

Notwithstanding the Messiah appears clothed with so much terror and majesty, the poet has still found means to make his readers conceive an idea of him beyond what he himself was able to describe.

Yet half his strength he put not forth, but check'd
His thunder in mid *volley*, for he meant
Not to destroy, but root them out of heaven.—ADDISON.

Vote. Prayer.

The end of my devotion is that one and the same hour may make us fit for Heaven. *Severino*. I join with you in my *votes* that way.—MASSINGER.

Preaching. One man judges a sermon by its length, and likes it because it is an hour. This is the arithmetical idea of preaching. Another admires it because he does understand it; a third admires it because he does not understand it. One man *votes* for a sermon as full of ideas as a pudding is full of plums. One likes a discourse endlessly subdivided, all hedges and ditches; another would have it limitless, free, and unenclosed as a moor or a common. One wishes it to be garnished with scripture and nothing else, and hewed within very strait-laced limitations; another would allow it a wider range, illustrations drawn from the most varied and loftiest subjects, from the ant to the leviathan, from the glow-worm under the hedge to that finer conflagration which shall whelm the universe in billows of fire.—GILFILLAN.

Voyage. Now used only for travelling by sea, but formerly also by land, like the French *voyage*.

Among all fools of right he may be stall'd,
That purposeth his *viage* when his horse is gall'd.

LYDGATE.

If we look into the three great heroic poems which have appeared in the world, we may observe they are built upon very slight foundations. We may very well suppose that the tradition

of Achilles and Ulysses had brought down but very few particulars to the knowledge of Homer, though there is no question but he has wrought into his two poems such of their remarkable adventures as were still talked of among his contemporaries. The story of Æneas on which Virgil founded his poem was likewise very bare of circumstances; he has interwoven in the course of his fable the principal particulars of Æneas' *voyage* and settlement in Italy. The history which was the basis of Milton's poem is still shorter.—ADDISON.

Vulgar. Common; but now used only in a bad sense.

A proclamation prohibiting the having of Holy Scriptures translated into the *vulgar* tongues of Englische, Frenche and Duche in such manner as within this proclamation expressed.—*Proclamation of Henry VIII.*

In reading an account of a battle we follow the Hero with our whole attention, but seldom reflect upon the *vulgar* heaps of slaughter.—*Rambler.*

The ambition of Oliver was of no *vulgar* kind, he never seems to have coveted despotic power; he at first fought sincerely and manfully for the Parliament, and never deserted it till it had deserted its duty,—MACAULAY.

W.

Wage. Hire; now used only in the plural 'wages,' which once meant a payment in the form of punishment.

And tho' the line break, he hath penance,
For with the hook he wounded is so sore,
That he his *wages* hath for ever more.—CHAUCER.

The *wages* of sin is death.—*Authorised Version, Rom. vi. 23.*

From those which paid them *wage* the island soon did win.

DRAYTON.

A man hardly knows how much he is a machine till he begins to make telegraph, loom, press, and locomotive in his own image, but in these he is forced to leave out his own follies and hindrances, so that when we go to the mill the machine is more moral than we. In the gingham mill a broken thread or shred spoils the web through a piece of a hundred yards, and is traced back to the girl who wove it and lessens her *wages*. A day is a more magnificent cloth than any muslin, the mechanism that makes it is infinitely cunninger, and you shall not conceal the sleepy, fraudulent, rotten hours you have slipped into the piece.—EMERSON.

Wake. To watch : now, to rouse from sleep.

About the fourth *waking* of the night.—WICLIF.

Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman *waketh* but in vain.—*Authorised Version, Psalm cxxvii. 1.*

All night she watched, ne once adown would lay
Her dainty limbs in her sad dreriment,
But praying still did *wake*, and *waking* did lament.

SPENSER.

The wood-nymphs deck'd with daisies trim
Their merry *wakes* and pastimes keep.

What hath the night to do with sleep?—MILTON, *Comus*.

We may observe that any single circumstance of what we have formerly seen, often *wakes* up a whole scene of imagery, and raises numberless ideas that had before slept in the imagination. Such a particular smell or colour is able to fill the mind on a sudden with the picture of the fields or gardens where we first met with it, and to bring up into view all the variety of images that once attended it.—ADDISON.

Wand. A branch.

Into a bird it changed and from him part
Flying from tree to tree, from *wand* to *wand*.—SPENSER.

A garden faire, and in the corner set
An Herbere greene, with *wandis* long and small.

King JAMES of Scotland.

Bear ever towards the contrary in whatever you may be by nature inclined unto, that you may bring the mind straight from its warp, like as when we row against the stream, or when we make a crooked *wand* straight by bending it the contrary way.—BACON.

Rich and rare were the gems she wore,
And a bright gold ring on her *wand* she bore.—T. MOORE.

Warn. To refuse : also, to summon.

A droppe of water him was *warn'd*.—GOWER.

And sent to *warn* him to his royal presence.

SHAKSPEARE, *Richard III*, i. 1.

A commonplace-book contains many notions in garrison whence the owner may draw out an army into the field on competent *warning*.—FULLER.

Watling Street. The name given by the Saxons to a Roman road running across England. The Galaxy, or Milky Way, was also so called in the Middle Ages.

See yonder, lo, the Galaxie
Whiche men clepeth the milky way,
For hit is white, and some parfay
Kallen it Watling-street.—CHAUCER.

It appeareth often in the white circle, the milke, the mariners callis Vatlanstreet.—*Complaynt of Scotland*.

Watling Street. Finding it expedient to construct a sewer at the corner of *Watling Street*, in the City of London, the labourers exhumed the following relics : digging first through the *débris* of the Fire of London they came upon a plague-pit, and extracted from it Catholic relics, old keys, shoe buckles, bodkins, and other small objects. Digging further they found the carved key-stone of a Saxon arch, and under that, various Roman remains, fragments of that pottery called Samian ware, broken glass vessels,

and a bronze figure of Apollo, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, tessellated pavement, and Roman tiles, and lastly, at the depth of twenty-five feet, they brought to light a fine bronze statuette of Roman workmanship. This figure was in excellent preservation, an archer, kneeling and discharging his arrow. This beautiful relic was found with some amphoræ and coins of the third century.—*Relics of Old London*, 1838.

Wealth. Moral prosperity.

How prone they be to attempt that thing that they be forbidden of their superiors for their own *wealth*.—WABHAM, *Oxford youths infected with the heresies of Luther*.

It may well be in the twentieth century that the peasant of Dorsetshire may think himself miserably paid with twenty shillings a week, that the carpenter at Greenwich may receive ten shillings a day, that the labouring man may be as little used to dine without meat as they now are to eat rye bread, that the sanatory, police, and medical discoveries may have added several more years to the average length of human life, that numerous comforts and luxuries which are now unknown, or confined to a few, may be within the reach of every diligent and thrifty working man. And yet it may then be the mode to assert that the increase of *wealth* and the progress of science have benefited the few at the expense of the many, and to talk of the reign of Queen Victoria as the time when England was truly merry England.—MACAULAY.

Weed. An old word of Saxon origin, meaning 'apparel,' or a dress. We still speak of a widow's *weeds*.

Disguised in a poor *weed* to Rome goeth.—GOWER.

By whose orient light
The nymph (Circe) adorned me with attires as bright ;
Her own hands putting on both shirt and *weede*,
Robes fine and curious.—CHAPMAN, *Odyssey*, Bk. x.

In quaint disguise full hard to be descry'd,
For all his armour was like salvage *weed*.—SPENSER.

A goodlie lady, clad in hunter's *weed*.—Id., *Fairy Queen*.

And there the snake throws her enamell'd skin,
Weed wide enough to wrap a fairy in.

SHAKSPEARE, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, ii. 2.

And they who to be sure of Paradise
Dying, put on the *weeds* of Dominic,
Or in Franciscan think to pass disguised.

MILTON, *Paradise Lost*, Bk. iii.

Nothing is so tiresome as walking through some beautiful scene with a minute philosopher, a botanist, or pebble-gatherer, who is eternally calling your attention from the grand features of the natural picture to look at *weeds* and chucky-stones.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Well. A fountain.

That they of pité and of grace
Have Acis in the same place.
There as he lay dead, into a *welle*
Transformed, as the bokes tell,
With fresche streams and with clere.—GOWER.

And eke you Virgins that on Parnassus dwell
Whence floweth Helicon the learned *well*.—SPENSER.

The pleasantness of the place, and the agreeable disposition of Shalum, who was reckoned one of the mildest and wisest of all who lived before the flood, drew into it multitudes of people who were perpetually employed in the sinking of *wells*, the digging of trenches, and the hollowing of trees, for the better distribution of water through every part of this spacious region.—*Spectator*.

Whereas. Used for 'where.'

Honour the place that such a jewel bred,
And kiss the ground *whereas* the corpse doth rest.

LORD SURREY.

Merry it was in the green forest
Among the leves green,
Whereas men hunte east and west
With bows and arrows keen.—PERCY, *Ballads*.

There is a particular fault which I have observed in most of

the moralists of all ages, and that is, that they are always professing themselves and teaching others to be happy; *whereas* this state is not to be arrived at in this life. Therefore I would recommend you to talk in a humbler strain, and instead of presuming to be happy, instruct us only to be tranquil. Great inquietude is to be avoided, but great felicity is not to be attained. The great lesson is equanimity, a regularity of spirit which is a little above cheerfulness and below mirth. Cheerfulness is always to be supported if a man is out of pain, but mirth to a prudent man should always be accidental.—ADDISON.

Wilfully. }
 Wilfulness. } With good-will, wishfully.

And when we came to Jerusalem the brethren received us *wilfully*.—WICLIF'S Bible.

And all did *wilfully* expect the silver-throned moon.

CHAPMAN.

Callot. At the age of twelve years he left the paternal roof. His parents, from prejudices of birth, had conceived that the art of engraving was one beneath the studies of their son, but the boy had listened to stories of the miracles of Italian art, and with a curiosity far greater than any self-consideration. He flew away one morning, and many days had not elapsed when, finding himself in the utmost distress with a gang of gipsies, he arrived at Florence. A merchant of Nancy discovered him, and returned the reluctant boy of genius to his home. Again he flies to Italy, and again he is re-conducted to his parents. The father, whose patience and forgiveness were now exhausted by his *wilfulness*, permitted his son to become the most original genius of French art.—I. DISRAELI.

Wit. Once synonymous with wisdom, intelligence. We still use the plural in this sense.

Witty above her sex, but that's not all,
 Wise to salvation was good mistress Hall;
 Something of Shakspeare was in that, but this
 Wholly of him, with whom she's now in bliss.

Epitaph on Shakspeare's daughter.

I could both sigh and smile at the *witty* simplicity of a poor old woman, who had lived in the time of Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, and said her prayers daily both in Latin and English, and 'Let God,' said she, 'take to Himself which He likes best.'—FULLER.

A grave man cannot conceive what is the use of a *wit* in society ; a person who takes a strong common-sense view of a subject is for pushing out by the head and shoulders an ingenious theorist, who catches at the lightest and faintest analogies ; and another man who scents the ridiculous from afar will hold no commerce with him who tastes exquisitely the fine feelings of the heart and is alive to nothing else : whereas, talent is latent, and mind is mind, in all its branches.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Witch. A sorcerer : at one time, like 'shrew' and 'termagant,' either male or female.

Whereof came the name of Symonye ? Of Symon Magus, a great *wytche*.—*Dives and Pauper*, vii. 16.

The last trial for *witchcraft* was under Lord Mansfield. The address to the jury was : I advise that this good woman should return to her home in whichever way she please, either in flying through the air, or along the king's highway. In neither case will she transgress the laws of the realm.

Worm. Often used in the Elizabethan age for a serpent or dragon. Worm's-head, a promontory in Glamorganshire, was so called on account of its likeness to a serpent's head.

Hast thou the pretty *worm* of Nilus there,
That kills and pains not ?

SHAKSPEARE, *Antony and Cleopatra*, v. 2.

The sad father,
That sees his son stung by a snake to death,
May with more justice stay his vengeful hand,
And let the *worm* escape, than you vouchsafe him
A minute to repent.

MASSINGER, *Parliament of Love*, iv. 2.

Hear ye that awful truth
 With which I charge my page,
 A *worm* is at the bud of youth,
 And at the root of age.—COWPER.

Worry. To kill : now, to harass, distress.

Some said they were smothered in their sleep, some that they were taken down into a stable and *wirried*.—*Murder of Darnley and his Page*.

To return to the *worry* incident upon conjoint action. What an immense number of people have to be persuaded, silenced, or tired out, before anything good can be done : how the cause becomes incrustated with fools, and bores, and vain men who hinder its progress far more than the marine creatures that sticking to the keels of vessels hinder theirs !—Sir A. HELPS.

Worship. Once equivalent to honour.

The which wife that I take ye me assure
 To *worship*, whilst that her lif may endure.—CHAUCER.

And for as much as it is not according to our *worship*, nor to our heart's ease, that the coming of her [Margaret of Anjou] into this our Realme be long tarried and delayed.—*Letter of Henry VI concerning his Queen*, 1443.

The Africans are very litigious, and display in their law-suits a most forensic exuberance of images and loquacity of speech. Their criminal cases are frequently terminated by selling one of the parties into slavery, and the Christians are always ready to purchase either the plaintiff or defendant, or both together, with all the witnesses and any other human creature that is of a dusky colour and *worships* the great idol Boo-boo-boo with eleven heads.—SYDNEY SMITH.

Y.

Yard. At one time applied to any enclosed place, as a garden, or orchard.

This *yerde* was large and railed at the alleys
And shadowed well with blossoming bowis greene,
And trenched new, and sanded all the ways.—CHAUCER.

The bitter frostis with the sleet and rain
Destroyed had the greene in every *yerde*.—Id.

That Phillis in the same throwe
Was shape into a nutté-tree,
That all men it might see,
And after Phillis Philliberd (filbert)
This tree was cleped in the *yerde*.—GOWER.

In the winter play-hours, when hard exercise was impossible, my tales used to assemble an admiring audience, and happy was he who could sit next the inexhaustible narrator. So on the whole I made a brighter figure in the *yards* than in the class.—Sir WALTER SCOTT.

Yard. A rod ; still used in a 'yard' measure.

Under the *yerde* was the Mayde.

CHAUCER, *The Shipman's Tale*.

Sir Host, quod he, I am under your *yerde*,
Ye have of us as now the Governance.

Id., *The Clerk's Prologue*.

A very holy man was travelling on foot and was benighted. He came to the cottage of a poor dowager ; however, as she was a pious widow, she made the good man welcome. In the morning, at taking leave, the saint made her over to God for payment, and prayed that whatever she should do as soon as he was gone, she might continue to do all day. The good woman went about her work, she had a piece of coarse cloth to make a

shift for herself and child; she no sooner began to measure it but the *yard* fell a measuring and there was no stopping it. It was sunset before the good woman had time to take breath, she was almost stifled, for she was up to her ears in 10,000 *yards* of cloth.—HORACE WALPOLE.

Yelp. Once used for the speech of human beings.

I wot well God me wol not helpe
What should I then of joyes *yelpe*?—GOWER.

Hunting the hare. I could see her first pass by, and the dogs sometime afterwards unravelling the whole track she had made, and following her through all her doubles. I was at the same time delighted in observing the deference which the rest of the pack paid to each particular hound, according to the character he had acquired amongst them. If they were at a fault and an old hound of good reputation opened but once, he was immediately followed by the whole cry; while a raw dog, or one that was reputed a noted liar, might have *yelped* his heart out without being taken notice of.—ADDISON.

Z.

Zany. A Zany (probably a corruption of Giovanni, a *simple John*) was a buffoon, clown, or mimic. Hence 'to zany' was 'to imitate.'

For indeed
He's like the *zani* to a tumbler,
That tries tricks after him to make men laugh.

BEN JONSON.

I fear, gracious lady, our conference hath been overheard. Matilda, the better your part is acted, give me leave at distance to *zany* it.—MASSINGER.

Yet even this confirms me in my opinion of slighting popular

